gation to the region. the R-TASS news agency reed Mr. Ishayev's snuh ig such a meeting sa important." Andre v. Mr. Zhirinovski with Khabarovsk cotes day and then left for

Viktor Ishayev, headd-Khaharovsk region a

i. Women perate nbat icopters HINGTON (AFP)

ermy will send women to ite Cohra and Apache opters flying cover in at ry units for tanks on the field, Peniagon sources uesday. But women are barred from operaunt ey field artillery weapon ple Launch Rocker Six or to fly choppers jor hy special operations said the sources, who on condition of anony The expanded role for n close to the hattlefield ed with the restrictions a compromise being Secretary Togo West ng for more women in units and Army Chief of General Gordon Sulwho wants a more liapproach. Women will rred from infantry. r and field artillery t units, which make up 27 per cent of the arms Air cavalry units oper thin sight of an oppos

rce but they are wit ed to come in direct t with the enemy. nan-Russian 1 to study ic ice floes

to bjection to Lebanese Germany (AFP) n-Russian expedition off for the Arcti ay to study the effect bal warming the We have complete trust in Lebanese, the governn city same. Thirty of is are to look into the tent in Lebanon, and if the was a proposal to form finitied delegation to uences of global g on ice floes in the Sea. expedition lead emane Kassens said

craxi sentenced to 81/2 years in jail

MILAN (AP) — A Milan court on Friday convicted former Falaists Premier Bettino Craxi of complicity in fraudulent Extruptcy and sentenced him to 8 and ½ years in prison, Italian gews reports said. The conviction of Mr. Craxi in absentia made him the highest-ranked figure to be convicted after two years of comption probes that disgraced Italy's business and political class. Mr. Craxi, who has been at his Tunistan villa for weeks, has refused judicial orders to turn in his passport, and just two days ago, a Rome judge rejected a prosecutor's request in another case to order an international arrest warrant for him. Also convicted and sentenced to 8½ years was Mr. Craxi's former protesse. and sentenced to 8½ years was Mr. Craxi's former protege, ex Justice Minister Claudio Martelli, the Italian news agency AGI reported. In Italy, appeals are routine, and convictions are not considered definite until after appeals and supreme court rulings. In the meantime, convicted defendants are usually allowed to be free. The trial dealt with the 1982 collapse, by fraudulent bankruptcy of Banco Ambrosiano, Italy's biggest post-war banking scandal.



barak, Rabin to meet in Taba

TEL AVIV (AP) — An Israel-Egypt summit is planned for Sunday at the Egyptian Red Sea resort of Taba, Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin's office announced Friday, Egypt's President Hosni Mubarak is expected to brief Mr. Rabin about his meeting in Demascus last week with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad, while Mr. Rabin will report to Mr. Mubarak about his talks with American and Jordanian leaders in Washington, Israeli reports said. The Israeli statement said only that the summit was scheduled for 1700 (1400 GMT) at the Hilton Hotel in Taba which scheduled for 1700 (1400 GMT) at the Hilton Hotel in Taba which borders on the southern Israeli city of Eilat. Egyptian officials confirmed the plans in a report carried by the Cairo-based Middle East News Agency. It would be the first Rabin-Mubarak meeting since May 4 when Egypt hosted the signing of an Israeli-Palestinian agreement that gave Palestinians autonomy in the Gaza Strip and Jericho. Israel initially suggested that Sunday's summit take place in the desert town of Beersheba, but Egypt apparently did not agree, an Israeli official said, speaking on condition of anonymity. Mr. Rabin has had several summits with Mr. Mubarak since 1992, all of them in Egypt.

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angoing Rwandan crisis, the profession of the corps of th om Rwanda, and now hong more than a million reges. Piled onto 2 true gees. Piled onto 2 true two kilomass grave gra mass grave two kilometres orth of the town, he was

Any peace treaty will be submitted to Parliament and to a plebiscite if necessary riced a body move, the PLO remains sole and legal representative of Palestinians and Jerusalem is for whole Umma ruggling to escana PLO remains sole and legal representative of Palestinians and Jerusalem is for whole Umma

From George Hawatmeh in Washington

RIS MAJESTY King Husweek-long visit to Washing-ABAROVSK, Russie confident of the Jordanian P) — Vladimir Zharanov people's support for his peace endured another saes initiative with Israel and en the head of the regions assured of the success of his

private visit to London, the King said the overwhelming Zhirinovsky has received imported of Jordanians sup-ool welcome in a regional ported his quest for peace. We are worried by what (the opponents of a settlenoist his sagang popular ment) say because we know the June Mr. Zhe what they want," the King vsky angrily stormed into told the newspaper editors and other reporters who icompanied his delegation Washington. "When the picture gets clearer and cul-minites in a peace treaty, we told him to go nome minutes in a peace treaty, we nonal officials had refuse that present it to the repremeet him, and the go enteringes of our people to-or — who was out of tor; bave their word on it."

"After that, I am also plaint against Mt. Zh. thinking seriously of going to sky for breaking into he all the Jordanian people and holding a plebiscite on the Hue," the King declared.

explained that the Jordanian Constitution has no articles allowing for a plebiscite or national referendam on issues, but Parliament could act to hold one if the need

The officials said, however, that they were confident that Parliament would endorse a peace treaty with Israel under the right conditions and it might not be necessary after all to hold a

40-member Upper House. cised rejectionist politicians, from both the far left and the extreme rights (Islamists), who claimed for themselves

the right to represent and speak on behalf of the Jordanian people" and who oppose peace in the name of religion. keep our faith away from politics," he said, accusing

Jordanian observers and analysts estimate that the government, once it has reached a treaty with Israel, could count on the support of about 57 members in the 80-seat Lower House as well as the vast majority of the The King strongly criti-

"If we fear God we should

able to leave behind the mentality of the past and not understanding the politics and exigencies of today's

"We are on the threshold of a new era," the King said. The neace that we are about to make is for the benefit of every citizen .. not for me personally.

In his huncheon meeting with the press, the King did not talk about the advantages that Jordan has won as a result of his historic meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and U.S. President Bill Clinton. He would only say that the meetings helped tear down "walls that prevented us in the past from seeing the human face of the other side (Israel)," But the King's aides were

more forthcoming on what had been achieved here in "All doors that were closed have been opened before Jordau," the prime minister, Dr. Abdul Salam Majali, said.

Officials cite as landmark achievements for Jordan: — The restoration of U.S.-Jordanian relations, which

damage as a result of the Gulf crisis and war, including tremendous improvement in ties with Congress.

Our relations with the U.S. now are probably much stronger than they were be-fore the Iraqi invasion of Kuwait," Jordan's Ambassa-dor to the U.N. Adnan Abn Odeh said. "This is important not only because the U.S. is the only remaining super-power in the world, but also for its implications on our ties with the rest of the world." - Jordan's political role in

the region and its indispensability to any emerging new order in the Middle East have been ascertained. "We would have been marginalised had we not chosen to pursue this path," Mr. Abn Odeh said.
"We should expect countries even like Saudi Arabia to lift its boycott against us," said another senior official. Asked if he had requested President Clinton to use his influence with Riyadh to lift that boycott, the King said he did not raise the subject. But

one of the King's aides told

the Jordan Times that such a

request was unnecessary

soon have to understand that there is no escape from patching relations with Jor-

Likewise, the officials were confident that ties with Syria have not suffered as a result of the Washington meetings, The King announced here that contacts with Syria

would be resumed soon and that Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak had told him Cairo was surprised by reports that Syrian President Hafez Al Assad would oppose the Washington Dec-

As far as the PLO is concerned, "We have to get rid of the complex that Jordan is seeking to replace (the organisation) as the representa-tive of the Palestinian peo-ple," the King said. "The PLO remains the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people," he

- The economie and military benefits that Jordan has reaped as a result of last week's meetings cannot be underestimated, according to Jordanian officials. "Only yesterday, Britain announced

debts (which amount to \$545 million)," Jordanian Ambassador to the U.S. Fayez Tarawneh said. "This is over and above the \$700m in debts to the U.S. that will be scrapped over the next two years and the American military assistance to the armed forces that we are expecting," Dr.

Tarawneh added. "It is bopefully a rollercoaster from here, and we should expect more economic and financial assistance over the coming period." Jordanian and U.S. offi-

cials are still discussing two more assistance programmes from the U.S., namely a currency stabilisation fund for the Jordanian Dinar and annual grants to the Jordanian budget. But no concrete results have been achieved yet on either one, due to complex technicalities involved and also to the fact that congressional elections are coming up in November and it is usually difficult for the U.S. Congress to expand foreign aid in such years. - Add to the above



Id not meet with Mr. inovsky or welcome he gation to the region. Lie Britain to write off JD60 million Jordan backs PLO's quest R-TASS news agency red. A Zhirinovsky of Jordanian government debts tesman in Moscow de

Jordan Times Staff Reporter of staff, said his his AMMAN - The British govconnent is writing off around ID60 million of Jordan's debts by converting loans to grants, following American promises to help the King-dom's stability following the historic breakthrough made in the Jordanian-Israeli peace

John Major, the British prime minister, made the amouncement to the Conactivative Middle East Counell late Thursday and said the move was part of his govern-ment's continued efforts to

the Washington Declaration agned by His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzbak Rabin in the U.S. capital on Monday. dan in every way we can

support Middle East peace-making.

Mr. Major paid tribute to

We wish to support Jorang the path chartered by long Hussein," Mr. Major and in the speech, a copy of which was made available to

dan Information Bureau in

talks with Israel, Lebanese

Porcign Ministry sources

Syrian President Hafez al

Assad told U.S. Secretary of

Space Warren Christopher in

Damascus last week he had

The sources, quoting Mr.

ian and Lebanese tracks in

the peace talks were linked.

tiate on the south (of

Quirces added.

fing the delegation, the

the Jordan Times by the Jor-

self among the many personal friends in Britain of King Hussein," the prime minister said. "He has shown indomitable courage over the years, and has led Jordan towards democracy as well as peace." "I know from my own dis-

cussions with the King that the burden of accumulated debt has weighed heavily on Jordan," Mr. Major said. "If we can alleviate this hurden, I believe that we can help Jordan's economie growth and democratisation and underpin the new rela-tionship with Israel."

I am therefore delighted to announce tonight that Britain will be converting outstanding balances of loans to Jordan by the Overseas Development Administration (ODA) to grant," he said. This will be worth approximately £60 million and is a powerful signal of our sup-

According to figures re-leased by the Central Bank of Jordan (CBJ), the Kingdom's government-to-government dehts to Britain stood at JD52.1 million at the end of 1993, or about £54 million at

Prior to Mr. Major's announcement that the debts were being converted to grant, JD18 million of the Kingdom's dehts were already being rescheduled; JD31,6 million in principal and JD2.5 million in interest

remained unrescheduled. Jordan also owes JD333.3 million to Britain in export credit guarantees, which are not fully considered eligible for write-off. Of this amount, JD161.6 million have been rescheduled, and JD130.6 million in principal and JD41.1 million remain unscheduled, but part of the principal and interest was covered in an agreement that Jordan reached with the Paris Club of government creditors

last month. Following the issuance of the Washington Declaration, the way was cleared for the U.S. government to offer debt relief of up to \$696 million to Jordan through a write-off spread over two to three years, Finance Minister Sami Gammoh said Friday (see page 3).
In his comments on Thurs-

day, Mr. Major also

ment "want(s) to give help to the new Palestinian administration in Gaza and Jericho and aim(s) to commit at least £75 million in bilateral and multilateral assistance in the next three years." Britain has already com-

mitted about \$100 million to help the Palestinian auton-

omous territories.

"We are helping other pillars of the new entity," Mr. Major said, adding that the Bank of England was advis-ing the Palestinians on setting up a central monetary authority and preparing for elections for a self-rule council later this year in addition to building the legal struc-

"We also hope to see early progress on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks," Mr. Major said. "In Lebanon, despite the continued Israeli presence in the south, impressive efforts are underway to rebuild the country, and in particular Beirut, after years of destructive conflict.' "A just and comprehensive

settlement is now a real possi-

(Continued on page 7)

∠ebanon

for Jerusalem sovereignty

Kingdom's role as the guardian of Islamic holy shrines will continue

AMMAN (J.T.) — Jordan has reaffirmed that it supported the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) to gain political sovereignty over the Holy City of East Jerusalem, adding that this did not clash with its religious custody of Mnslim sites

"There is no contradiction between restoring Arab political sovereignty over Arah Jernsalem through Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and Jordan continuing to play its role in exercising its religious jurisdiction over the Islamic sites," said an official statement.

His Majesty King Hussein and Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin signed an accord at their summit in Washington on Monday recognising the special role for the Hashemite in preserving Muslim boly sites in East Јепжајет.

The PLO protested that the agreement redneed chances of Palestinians eventually gaining political sovereignty over Arab East Jerusalem, which they claim as the future capital of a Palestinian state.

"Jordan supports the PLO. as the Palestinians' sole legitimate representative, in its efforts to recover political and geographic sovereignty over all occupied Arab and Palestinian territories, induding East Jerusalem," it

"We discussed only the religious sovereignty of the Islamie nation over its religious properties," the King

He expressed surprise that 'some parties' felt threatened by Israel's recognition of Jordan's role in the holy shrines which Amman continued to manage after a break in ties between Jordan and the West Bank in 1988. Friday's Jordanian stateevents affecting their future, I ment was the first gov-

summit declaration aroused Palestinian criticism.

"Jordan's firm position is support of the Palestine Liheration Organisation's efforts to gain political and geographic sovereignty over all Arab Palestinian lands. including holy Jerusalem,"

But it added that Jordan would not relinquish "its historic role in exercising its religious jurisdiction over Islamie shrines in Jeru-

The Washington Declaration's reference to Jerusalem was only an admission hy Israel of the Hasbemite family's historic role in "custodianship of the Islamic holy sites to achieve Arah Islamic rights, including Palesti-man," it added. Jordan would continue to

ensure that the higher Islamic interest in the city was preserved, the statement said. His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, told ministers and top officials who had gathered on Wednesday to express their support for King Hussein's peace policy: "The consecration of Arab and Islamic sacred rights in Jerusalem is an asset of which we are proud.

"The issue of Jerusalem requires coordination between all Arab and Islamic efforts, notably Jordanian-Palestinian, to safeguard this

He added: "Jordan has always been anxious to draw up realistic plans and solutions for the Jerusalem issue to guarantee the rights of the Arab Nation in this town and over the holy sites."

Following are excerpts from the Jordanian statement issued on Friday:

In the wake of the Washington Declaration, various media reports carried

ernmental comment since the concerning the declaration's third article with regard to Jordan's historic role in matters concerning the holy shrines. Out of keenness on the part of the Jordanian government to clarify its position vis-a-vis this important issue, it announces the fol-

> Jordan's stand regarding the holy places in Jerusalem is clear and unwavering and is based on the following princi-

- Jerusalem is an Arab-Islamic land occupied since 1967 as part of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan and hence it is subject to U.N. Security Council resolutions 242 and 338 along with the other parts of the occupied

— In 1974, Jordan gave its consent to an Arah Summit resolution in Rabat which considered the Palestine Liberation Organisation as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian

In commitment to the Rahat resolution, Jordan backed the PLO and coordinated its steps and policies with the organisation with the purpose of attaining Arab rights in the occupied lands. - In order that the Palestinian people be able to establish their independent state on Palestinian soil, Jordan in 1988 severed its administrative and legal links with the West Bank, except for matters related to Awqaf and Islamic affairs as well as the Islamic courts which continned to be under Jordanian control in continuation of the Hashemite family's role in providing care for the holy places and to ensure protection for them in the face of attempts on the part of Israel

and other foreign parties to

seize these holy places. The PLO had since hlessed this (Continued on page 7)

League supports Jordan's explanation

CAIRO (Petra) - Jordan on Thursday explained its stand on Jerusalem at an Arah League meeting and empha-sised that the Kingdom's role in the Islamic holy shrines in Jerusalem was religious oriented and the Arab League endorses this view, a league statement said Thurs-

The Palestinian delegate to the meeting expressed his satisfaction with the Arah League's interpretation of the Jordanian explanation and said he would convey this to the Palestinian leadership, said the statement.

The meeting, held at the level of permanent delegates of member states to the Cairo-hased Arah League, was called by the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) following the issuance of the Washington Declaration, which included an Israeli recognition of the historie Jordanian role in the Islamie holy sites in Jerusalem, the league statement

The meeting was attended by the delegate of Jordan, Palestine, Egypt and Arab League Secretary-General Esmat Abdul Meguid.

The statement quoted Jordanian Amhassador to Cairo, Nayef Al Qadi, who is (Continued on page 7)

AL-DALAL

at Forte Grand Hotel 25% discount on Oriental embroideries perfumes and silver. for one week only.

lies off the northern coast between the Syria accepts joint team with BEIRUT (R) - Syria has Lebanese," the sources Lebanese people do not bid the United States it is quoted him as adding. teady to form a joint delegation with Lebanon for peace

Lebanon's talks with Israel have been stalled for months and Syrian-Israeli negotiations have also been making little overt progress despite mediation by Mr. Christ-

Both countries are demanding Israeli withdrawal, or at least a commitment to withdraw, from their land. They are further linked by

the presence of 35,000 Syrian troops in Lebanon who are helping the Beirut government to restore and extend its anthority after the 1975-90 civil war.

"I see there is a necessary linkage between the Lebanese and Syrian tracks," telling Mr. Assad was quoted as telling Mr. Christopher.

The day of the south (of Lebanon) and Golan, we telling Mr. Christopher.

Even if the south (of Lebanon) was liherated, the Mr. Assad was quoted as

accept to sign a peace agreement if Syria does not get the Golan Heights back," he

The same sources told Renters on Monday that Mr. Assad refused a request by Mr. Christopher to raise the level of Syria's negotiating team to at least foreign minister level, and that Lebanon made a similar refusal earlier this month.

Syria is demanding an Israeli commitment to leave the Golan Heights before progress towards peace can be made, and Lebanon is demanding Israel's withdrawal from a South Lebanon zone before it will discuss a

The Syrian troops in Leba-

non make Damascus Leba-

non's nitimate power broker

In Nicosia, Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres appealed on Friday for Syria to join Israel in private dialogue to remove the biggest remaining obstacle to further Middle East peace progress. But both Mr. Peres and his Cypriot hosts, who have offered their island as a venue for peace talks, played down suggestions that any fresh contacts — formal or informal - were imminent.

Mr. Peres, however, paid

tribute to Russian efforts to

secure meetings with Syria. "Right now it's not a tango. It's not a dance between told a news conference.

the two (sides)," Mr. Peres Mr. Peres, the highest-ranking Israeli to visit Cyp-rus, said public negotiations were needed so each country's citizens can understand

on U.N. in Somalia

MOGADISHU (AP) -With clans still fighting, looting, extorting and unable or unwilling to form a government, Washington is preparing to seek a United Nations pullout from Somalia.

The Security Council would begin a review of the U.N. Operation in Somalia (UNOSOM) on Friday, and the United States was to ask that the missinn be shut down

or greatly reduced.

A U.N. withdrawal would raise the possibility of all-out clan war for political supermacy in Somalia — the sort nf struggle that led to a 1992 famine that killed more than 350,000 people.

It also would reduce the aid Somalia receives, already diminished by the withdrawal of most private relief agencies. Many found the costs and dangers too high, cou-pled with falling donations once Somalia faded from the world's television screens.

The Security Council review comes two days after a new outhreak of fighting in Mogadishu between subclans loyal to the country's two main warlnrds.

The fighting Wednesday was the latest in a series of hartles, most lasting four or five days, that began in April between the Habre Gedir and the Hawadle, both subclans of ther Hawiye clan. It may have been the kiss of death for UNOSOM.

The Habre Gedir are loyal tn General Mohammad Farrah Aideed, the warlord the American military fnught before leaving Mogadishn last March. The Hawadle are supported by Gen. Aideed's chief rival, Ali Mahdi Mohammad.

James Victor Gbeho, a Ghanaian who serves as U.N. special envny to Somalia, acknowledged Wednesday that the international community is losing patience with Somatia:

But Mr. Gbehn said it would be a mistake for the Security Council to pull the plug on the costly U.N. missinn in Somalia.

Adnoting the U.S. approach to Somalia would have consequences "too ghastly to contemplate" he

"I think Rwanda has come at an appropriate time as a er to us that the mi national community should never turn its back on problems such as those we are experiencing both in Rwanda

and Somalia.

But Mr. Gbeho told a news conferences in Nairnhi, Kenya, that while the Security Council may not shut down the Somali operation altogether, it is likely to re-

"The Security Council will make less resources available to UNOSOM, largely because those contributors who are fed up with Somalia will make less resources available," he predicted.

The contributor most fed up with Somalia is the United States, which bears about one third nf the cost of U.N. peacekeeping missions. The cost of the Somalia mission to date is about \$1.5 billion.

Somalia also has cost more than 30 American lives, including 18 soldiers killed in a vicious firefight with Gen. Aideed's militia in Mogadishu last October. Those deaths led to the U.S. withdrawal and a continuing reluctance by Washington commit troops to other U.N. peacekeeping missinns, in Bosnia, Rwanda and else-

Washington made its annnyance clear in May, when the Security Council voted to extend the UN-OSOM mandate until Sept. 30. The United States went along, but only after getting the council to agree to review

the decision in 45 days. A new U.S. ambassador, Danile Simpson, arrived in early July and immediately told faction leaders that unless some sort of government was in place hy the end of the month, America would end its support.

The majnr factions agreed in March to establish a government of national reconciliation, hnt Mr. Gbeho acknowledged that progress has been "painfully slow." A proposed ennference of Somali leaders to form a government has been postponed five times and still is not in

have been ambushed and looted, several peacekeepers have been killed in crossfire from the frequent clan clashes, six foreigners have been kidnapped on the streets of Mngadishn and most aid agencies have left the country.

Some Somali elements have no qualms about biting the hands that feed them. the U.N. special envoy admitted ruefully.

U.S may pull plug U.S. may seek tough Libya sanction

WASHINGTON — (USIA) — the United States rejects Libya's attempts to evade the U.S.-U.K. demand for extradition of twn Lihvan nationals believed to be responsible for the bombing of Pan Am Flight 103 over Lockerbie, Scotland, on Dec. 21, 1988, says a U.S. nfficial.

And if Libya continues to refuse to surrender the suspects, the United States favours increased sanctions against Lihya mcInding a complete oil embargo, Barbara Bodine, State Department counterterrorism coordinator, told the House Fore-ign Affairs Committee's Subcommittee on International

Security Thursday.

But she also said Libyan leader Muammar Qadhafi's regime is experiencing the negative impact of U.N. Security Council sanctions imposed earlier against Libya in an effort to compel the release of the two suspects to U.S. and British authorities. Grand juries in the United States and the United Kingdom have handed down cri-

two Libyans suspected in the Ms. Bodine said the administration believes that "the increasing difficulties experienced by Libya as a result of the sanctions are causing that gnvernment to prnpose alternatives, unacceptable.

minal indictments against the

though they are, to a trial in the U.S. or Scotland."

"Lihyan half-measures such as proposing that the trial be held in the Hague" at the World Court "or that the U.N. Security Council establish a special tribunal to hear the case are simply unacceptable," she said.

"We have publicly rejected such proposals in the past, and we do so today. We believe that a trial for the accused must take place in the United States or Scotland," she declared.

Libya's proposals "are in-

tended to evade" Security Council resolutions 731 and 883, which imposed economic sanctions as a means of forcing Qadhafi's hand. "Libya's proposals will not do justice to the victims of this terrible act of mass mur-der. They would instead be a miscarriage of justice," Ms. Bodine told legislators.

The United States "is not satisfied" with the enforcement efforts of some nations and wants greater international cooperation on the matter, she said. Washington already has frozen about \$1.000 million in Libyan government assets and is sending teams to pressure Western European allies to abide fully by the U.N. resolutions, said

In addition, the Treasury

Department is preparing to take financial action against Libvan companies in Europe and individuals who operate them for Libya, she said, also warning that the United States advocates increased sanctions against Libya including an oil embargo - if it does not surrender the sus-

Subcommittee Chairman Tom Lantos predicted that the European allies will never agree to an oil emhargo against Libya. He proposed instead that the United States unilaterally impose a naval blockade on Libya to cut off all trade through its ports. Such a step is necessary to make it clear to Tripoli that the United States intends to have access to the two Libyan suspects, said the congress-

Thus far, he asserted, the-Reagan, Bush and Clinton administrations all have failed to pressure Libya adequately to gain their release. In the Lockerbie matter and with other terrorist crimes the United States and the world enmmnnity have "failed to act swiftly and decisively" to bring perpetra-tors to justice, Mr. Lantos

Ms. Bodine told Mr. Lantos that a unilateral move such as a naval hlockade would set the dangerous precedent of going beyond what the Security Council had ordered. The United States and the world community rely on international consensus achieved through the Security Council, she noted. Noting that Congress is

bipartisan on the subject of "terrorism," Mr. Lantos annunuced that he and House Republican assistant leader Newt Gingrich intend to introduce legislation next week to encourage the president to seek an international summit for the purpose of galvanising world support against "terrorism."

One objective of the proposed summit would be to focus on irresponsible governments that hide and provide financial support for terrorists, Mr. Lantos said. He reiterated his previous charges that the governments of Syria and Iran might have been involved in the con-spiracy that investigators say led to the planting of a dis-guised bomb aboard Pan Am Flight 103.

"The strnngest efforts against rogue regimes that view terrorism as just another tool of foreign policy must at long last be applied," he said. In the meantime, Congress

wants the State Department to provide a list of countries that are not complying fully with the sanctions already in place against Libya, Mr. Lan-

'Indiana Jones' can find ark of covenant

THE OCCUPIED WEST BANK (R) - A Texas Bible scholar whn claims tn be the model for adventure film hero Indiana Junes said on Thursday he had discovered an ancient resting place of the lost Ark of the covenant.

Vendyl Jones, who says he could dig up the ark itself if Israel would let him, said he used space-age technology to discover stone walls of a Bibfical city at Gilgal in the dusty desolatinn of the lowest point Meanwhile, U.N. convoys on earth.

Mr. Jones's claim drew intense media interest in the Jewish state and Israel's two television stations carried reports from the site nn their main evening newscasts. But the Israeli antiquities

anthnrity -- which twn years agn nidered the former Baptist minister from Arlington, Texas to stop excavations in the occupied West Bank said he was not an

archaeologist. It dismissed his claim he could find the ark, a wooden chest which Jewish traditinn says contained the stone tablets of the Ten Commandments, representing God's promise to regard the Jews as his chosen people in return for their commitment to worship him alone,

"I think it's very important now to announce the find of a city that's been hidden," said Mr. Jones. "A large city greater than Troy, greater than Pompeu, greater than the lost city of Ubar 100 times over in size, has been disco-

Mr. Jones said a close reading of the Bihle led him to the "conjecture" that Gilgal lay huried at the site near the northern edge of Dead Sea.

The Old Testament says Gilgal was the campsite nf the Israelites after they crossed the River Jurdan, before the fall of Jerichn.

The ark, carried by the Israelites from the Sinai desert to the boly land, was placed in the Jewish temple in Jerusalem but disappeared either in the sixth century BC nr in the first century AD. Mr. Jones, in cooperation

with the institution of desert research at Ben-Gurion University in souther Israel, used aerial thermal infrared sensing to discover walls not visi-. hle from the surface. · The hi-tech procedure de-

termines differences in surface temperature that Mr. Jones said allows researchers to pinpoint buried structures. Mr. Jones, 64, drove reporters to the site in a white

truck with Texas licence plates and a bumper sticker promoting a movement he founded called non-Jews for the Torah.

He said in 1977 a freelance

nut him that changed hands several times before being made into the film "Raiders of the Lost Ark," In the Steven Spielberg

writer wrote a screenplay ab-

film, archaeologist "Indiana Junes" races to beat Nazis in a quest for the ark in 1930s Egypt. The creators of the film

and its two sequels have said there was no connection between Vendyl Junes and the movie character." The Israeli government

archaeologist in charge of the Dead Sea Area, Yitzhak Maggen, said in a statement that Mr. Jones's finding of Gilgal was inconclusive.

"It's not a scientifie

theory," said Mr. Maggen. archaeologist and he has not excavated the area yet, I do not believe this is a real find-

Islam gains members in U.S. as Americans learn more, experts say

WASHINGTON (USIA) — Interest and curiosity ahnut Islam are prompting more and more Americans to study and increase their awareness and appreciation of the religion, says Sayvid Muhammad Syeed, secretary general nf the Islamic Society of North America.

"The mnre ynu have misrepresentation or sensatinnal news against Islam, the mnre it is generating interest at the grass roots level," he said July 26 in a U.S. Informatinn Agency Wnrldnet dialogue on Islam in America with participants in Karachi, Lahore and Peshawar. He said that fullnwing

highly publicised news stories about Muslims or Muslim culture, "immediately we see... large numbers of sales nf Islamic books, visits to Islamic centres. This has tn be kept in mind, because from the outside we see only the willful misrepresentation, and not the actual impact it has at the grass roots level." Recent polls in the United

States show that despite sumetimes hiased media coverage and frequent lack of understanding, more Americans than ever are converting to Islam. And studies now indicate that Islam has become the fastest growing religinn in the United States.

According to nne source, "The Muslims of America," America's Muslim population has increased substantially in urban areas and has developed institutions across the country. Records from the city of Philadelphia show that more than 7 millinn Muslims live in the United States and about 3 million U.S. residents are nf Arah nrigin. Across the country there are mure than 600 mosques/ Islamic centres, two Islamic colleges, scores of parochial day schools, several hundreds weekend schools, women's organisations, youth groups, and professional and civil

nrganisations Mr. Syeed, who has been actively involved in fostering understanding among the wurld's religions and played a prominent role in founding the American Muslim Council, said that in the United States, the second generation nf Muslim youth is a "phcnomenon.

He said that 20 years ago, he and other committed Muslims were concerned that Islam would not take root among Americans. "But to-day," he reported, "Muslims from abroad, a new genera-tion (in the U.S.) and bright and hrilliant American (converts to the faith) will take the hanner of Islam in Amer-

Also participating in the dialogue was Khalid Abdul Hadi Yahya Blankinship, a professor of Islamic Studies at Temple University and an American convert to the Islamic religion, whn explained that "the people keep coming despite the lack of resources... The religion tends to move itself.

Today, Mr. Blankinship said. "we have a rising class of Americans who are scho-

Yesterday's high temperatures: Amman 29, Aqaba 37 Humidity readings: Amman 40 per cent.

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Dr. Yousef Nasr
Dr. Abdul Hadi Tayim

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Dr. Ali Al Shoqairi

Agaba 35 per cent.

lars, whn are familiar with the religion." In a natinn that despairs

about the decline of family values, he said, Islam generates a strong appeal due to its structure and strong mnral message. He nnted that '(Islam) has heen very attractive in inner-city neighbourhoods." In the African-American community, he reported, "We dn believe that Islam can provide a possible model for reconstruction of society. Buth speakers noted that

American Muslims are becoming mure invulved in the political process. They said that even though American Muslims have only recently begun to organise themselves politically, they have been instrumental in encouraging dialogue among religinus faiths, the U.S. government, Arah and Muslim governments, and Islamic move-

ments around the world. Mr. Syeed said that Muslim-friendly city laws that have been passed in the United States and Muslim holidays are often noted and explained in the popular press. "The inauguration of the Senate and the Congress. with the recitation of The Koran (and) the message from the president of the Eid Al Fitr, for example... these symbolie gestures go a lnng way in giving a better image of Islam," he said.

"When my children go tn schnnl... their elassmates have heard about Ramadan. They have heard about Eid... Sothen they feel mare comfortable to discuss Islam in a positive light," be said. Mr. Syeed also reported

that he interviewed a Muslim whn recently had heen elected mayor of a Texas town. "We asked him (the mayor) to analyse what went into his success. Is there a large number of Muslims in that city?" said Mr. Syeed, who noted that the mayor's family were the nnly Muslims in that city. "But the people there have recognised him as a trustworthy person so he got the largest number of votes. And this scene is being repeated in other cities as well at different (government) levels," Mr. Syced said.

Mr. Blankinship, when asked about the loss of religinus principles among ynung American Muslims, replied that Muslim children nften grow up with very little community with Islam. "They would come back to the mosque in the end only to hury penple, which was like burying the religion itself," he said.

But despite the erosion of religions principles worldwide, Mr. Blankinship described the future as "nnt .hleak, hut very hopeful. Because there is more of a Muslim community nnw.... There is more of a social basis for keeping the children in the fold of Islam." And, he said, the loss of committed Muslims "is counterbalanced by the nther phenomenon of people coming into Islam."

NEWS IN BRIEF

Baker backs U.S. troops on Golan

TEL AVIV (AP) - Former U.S. Secretary of State James Baker has said he would back sending U.S. troops to police a Syria-Israel peace on the Golan Heights. "It's something that is clearly in the national interests of the United States," Mr. Baker told Israel Television in an interview taped in Washington. "If the modalities could be worked out, its something that ought to be seriously considered."
Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin has said that an American presence on the Golan Heights would convince Israelis that withdrawing from the strategic plateau would be worthwhile. But some Republican senators have opposed the plan, saying it would risk American lives. But Mr. Baker, whn served in former President George Bush's Republican administration, said U.S. forces were right for the Job. "A peaceful Middle East is important, not just to America frankly but to many countries around the world. and I cannnt think of a more appropriate or a more important role for American security forces," he said.

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Israel probes anti-Arab summer camp

TEL AVIV (R) — Pnlice are investigating a summer camp in the Israeli-occupied West Bank that offers Israeli youths weapons training and anti-Arab lectures, Israel's education minister said on Friday. "Ministry of education officials checked the issue and passed it nn tn the police and the attorney general and the law will operate in this matter," Education Minister Amnon Rubinstein told Israel's army radio. Israeli media said this week 15 boys aged 11 to 18 trained with automatic weapons and attended lectures nn the ideology of the outlawed Kach nrganisation at a summer camp at Kiryat Arha, a Jewish settlement near Hebron. Israel nutlawed Kach and a related organisation, Kahane Chai, shortly after a settler from Kiryat Arba shot dead more than 30 Palestinians at a mosque in Hehron on Feh. 25. The settler had nnce been a member of Kach. Those running the camp have denied breaking the law. They say teaching the philosophy of Rahbi Meir Kahane, slain in New York in 1990, is not illegal. Kahane, who preached the expulsion of Arabs from Israel and the occupied territories, founded Kach.

Passport of Malaysian prince ordered seized

KUALA LUMPUR (AFP) — Kuala Lumpur has ordered the confiscation of the passport of the hrother of the king of Malaysia in punishment for visiting Israel, Premier Mahathir Mohammad was Friday reported as saying. Mr. Mahathir said the cabinet decided nn Wednesday to seize the passport of Prince Abdullah Rahman, who admitted on July 16 that he went nn a three-day trip last month to investigate husiness possibilities in Israel. "The weekly cabinet meeting discussed the issue although it was not on the agenda. When a person misuses his passport, we will take it back," Mr. Mahathir was reported in local newspapres as saying in northeastern Trenggann state late Thursday. He said he did not know whether the prince's passport had already been seized by the authorities. Prince Tunku Abdullah, the 68-year-old younger brother of King Tunku Ja'afar Tuanku Abdel Rahman, returned from overseas last week. But his aides said Friday that the prince had elarified his visit and didn unt want in issue any more

UAE seizes 200 kilogrammes of hashish

ABU DHABI (AFP) - The United Arab Emirates (UAE) has seized around 200 kilogrammes of hashish and arrested eight people, including two Asians for drug smuggling, local newspapers reported. The drugs were seized on Wednesday in a boat nff the emirate of Sharjah and were destined for annther Gulf Arah country, the papers said. Coast guard and police raids resulted in the rest of eight people, including twn Asians inside the UAE, they said without identifying those arrested or the targeted country. It was the second biggest drug haul seized in Sharjah, one of the seven emirates making up the UAE. In 1991, police seized nearly three tonnes of hashish in a boat off the port of Khor Fakkan in the Gnlf of Oman and several Pakistanians were arrested in the nperation. The UAE has joined neighbouring Saudi Arabia in introducing death punishment against drug traffickers but nobody has so far been executed.

Suspect admits Italian sailors' killings

ALGIERS (AFP) - Algerian state television late Thursday broadcast the confession of an Algerian man, Derrich Omar, accused of involvement in the killing of seven Italian sailnrs here nn July 7. Two other people shown in the hroadcast and presented as members of an armed Islamic organisation, are accused of murdering two Algerian lawyers, while a young engineer was accused if being a bomb-maker. Omar, 31, described the circumstances in which an armed group of 15 Islamic fundamentalists killed the seven Italian sailnrs after boarding their boat. Omar said be had himself killed three nf the Italians, cutting their throats after tying their hands and feet while they slept in. their ship's cabin. He also named the head of the group as one Sherif Bouzid.

Moroccan court jails cheating student

RABAT (R) - A woman who let students see examina tion papers was nne nf 16 people whn drew jail terms and fines in a Morocco cheating scandal, lawyers said on Thursday. Pnlice said Leila Mnustawhid, in charge of papers at the Casahlanca Faculty of Medecine, slipped them to a student in return for 10,000 dirhams (\$1,111) and a promise of marriage. She was sentenced to four years in prison and fined 5,000 dirhams (\$555) while the others, mostly medical students, drew the same fine and lesser jail terms. The Casahlanca court of appeal also gave 17 other trainee doctors three-month suspended sentences and 10,000-dirham (\$1,111) fines, lawyers said.

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PRAYER TIMES

CHURCHES St. Mary of Nazareth Church Sweifieh, Tel. 810740 Assemblies of God Church, Tel.

St. Joseph Church Tel. 624590. Church of the Annanciation Tel. Cheren en 637440. De la Salle Church Tel. 661757 Terrassacta Church Tel: 622366 Church of the Annunciation Tel. 623541. Anglican Church Tel. 630851, Tel. 628543. Armenian .Catholic Church Tcl.

Armenica Orthodox Church Tel. St. Ephraim Church Tel. 771751.
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The Latter-Day Saints Tel. 654932
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WEATHER

Bulletin supplied by the Department of Meteorology.

It will be fine with clouds appear-ing at low altitudes and winds porthwesterly moderate to active. In Agaba, winds will be northerly moderate and seas calm. Min./Max. temp.

EMERGENCIES

Food Control Centre 637111 Civil Defence Department 661111 Civil Defence Immediate Highway Police Traffic Police ... Public Security Department ... Hotel Complaints Price Complaints Water and Sewerage .. 630321

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HOSPITALS

JORDAN TIMES DAILY GUIDE AND CALENDAR

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Amai Hospital ZAROA: Zarqa Govt. Hospital (09)983323 Zarqa National Hospital Princess Basusa Hospital Greek Catholic Hospital Iba Al Nafees Hospital (02)272275 (02)247100 (02)

AMMAN: Hussem Medical Centre 213813/32 **AIRPORT**

ARRIVALS Royal Jordanian (RJ) Fiights (Terminal 1) 05:30 Jakarta, Singapore (RJ) (09)900560 (09)986732 18:30 11:86 ... Beirut R Cairo Ri

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This information is supplied by Royal fordanian (RI) information department at the Queen Alia In-ternational Airport Tel. (08)53200-5, where it should always be veri-Royal Jordanian (RJ) **Fiights** (Terminal 1)

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he Jordanian band, Stablished in 1993, plays

REGENT AT FRIDAY PRAYERS: His Royal Highness

Crown Prince Hassan, the Regent, attends Friday prayers at Shuweih Mosque in Aqaba. The Regent seconed to the sermon delivered by Director of the Aqaba Awqaf Department Sheikh Falah Al Salai'in. The sermon focussed on the need to maintain unity and adhere to the guidance of the holy Koran. Sheikh Solal'in called for safeguarding unity and preventing any attempts to tamper with it. He lauded His Majesty King Hussein's step to establish a just, lasting and honourable peace that future generations will accept. describing the move as courageous and daring and enjoying the blessing of the Umma. The preacher said that the Hashemite leadership has dedicated itself to serving the nation, and its just causes and to restoring Arab rights not only in Jordan but also in Palestine. The three Hashemite restorations of the Dome of the Rock and Al Aqsa stand witness to the endless Hashemite giving and dedication, he said.

JERASH FESTIVAL

- Concert by George Wassouf at the South Theatre at
- Performance by the Palestinian Popular Arts Group at
- the Artemis Theatre at 21:30. Children's "Happy Prince" play at the Sound and Light Theatre at 19:00
- Musical performance by Imad and Frances Battayeh at the Garasia Theatre at 19:30
- Play entitled "On The Other Side" at the Garasia Theatre at 20:45.

Play in Arabic entitled "A Black Comedy" by Majd Al Qasas at the Royal Cultural Centre at 8:30 p.m.

LECTURE

Lecture in Arabic entitled "Women in Proverbs" by Dr. Jamana Taha at Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabel Amman at 6:30 p.m.

EXHIBITIONS

- Exhibition of Arabic calligraphy at the Royal Cultural
- Kinibition of Chinese products at the Royal Cultural
- of Of printing and ceramic exhibition by Jordanian and Iraqi artists at Al 'Ain Art Gallery, Wadi Saqra (Tel. Exhibition of paintings by Reem Lutfi at the Phoenix
- iture and Art. Gardens St. (Tel. 695291). Exhibition of paintings by Omar Hamdan Shahuan at Darat Al Funun of the Abdul Hameed Shoman Foundation in Jabal Luweibdeh. Also showing "permauent" exhibition of 56 Arab contemporary artists (Tel. 643251/
- Exhibition entitled "Arab Artists in France" at the Jordan National Gallery of Fine Arts, Jabal Luweibdeh, off Al Muntazah Circle (Tel. 630128).
- Exhibition by artist Bishara Al Najjar at the Orient Gallery for Fine Arts, Gardens Str. (Tel. 698513).

'U.S. to write off \$696m in Jordan's debts'

By P.V. Vivekanand Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — The United. States government is expected to write off \$696 million in Jordan's debts in a three-year period, start-ing with \$190 million this year, Finance Minister

Sami Gammoh said Friday. Mr. Gammob said, however, that his information was based on "unofficial" figures and that be was waiting for "formal communication" from Washington.

The minister said the total Jordanian debt to the U.S. was around \$950 million, but the amount taken into consideration and which falls under the category eligible for debt relief onder Americao para-meters was \$696 million.

"The rest of the amount represents loans guaranteed by the government of Jordan to American suppliers" of goods and services, Mr. Gammoh told the Jordan Times, adding that Jordan's definition of government debts differed rom Washington's.

Mr. Gammoh said that information available to him indicated that \$190 million would be written off this year, \$252 million next year and the rest in

Diplomatic sources said an announcement was expected soon in Washington detailing the amount of write-off for Jordan and related details.

U.S. President Bill Clinton made a public commitment in October 1993 that Washington would be seeking means to alleviate the Kingdom's foreign debt burden, which stood at \$6.6 billion at the end of 1993.

Since then Washington, whose direct financial assistance to Jordan has dwindled since 1990, played a behind-the-scene role in trying to secure debt rebef for Amman from the Kingdom's other international creditors.

However, Jordan has not received any significant amount of debt relief except that it succeeded in securing a rescheduling agreement covering \$1.215 lion due to members of the Paris Club of creditor governments and another \$130 million to non-Paris Club governments last

month The U.S. component in the \$1.215 billion agreed to be rescheduled by the Paris Club is around \$400 milhon. It was not immediately known how much of that amount was eligible for

write-off under the American parameters.

The World Bank has said that Jordan needs to cut its foreign debts by a minimum of 50 per cent before the Kingdom could hope to regain an international level of accepted creditworthiness. That would mean

around \$3.5 hillion.

Jordan has rejected suggestions that American economic assistance to the Kingdom was the "price" that Washington was paying for the historie meeting that His Majesty King Hussein held with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in the U.S. capital on Monday and the Washington Declaration that the two leaders endorsed, signalling an end to the state of war between

Jordan and Israel. Officials say that it was well understood by the Clinton administration that raising the standard of living and addressing some of the root economic problems of Jordan are inevitable elements of the peace process to ensure the effectiveness of any peace

agreement. There is not bargaining bere; it is not 'you give me this and I give you this'," Jordan's Ambassador to the U.S. Fayez Tarawneh

said last month. "This is just putting the bare facts that the stability of Jordan is very important to the continuity of the peace process and this is part of the comprehensiveness," of

Middle East peace. By the same token, Jordan is far from being in a comfortable position let along being assured of the economic benefits of peace seeping into people's life,

"What kind of peace are we talking about if we con-tinue to face high poverty. unemployment and other economy-related social problems?" asked a senior official. "Peace should in effect mean an improvement in the life of the people. Without that peace is meaningless as Jordan

Furthermore, the official pointed out, "people's ex-pectations for a better life in peace have been raised and it is only natural that they would be disappointed if the fruits of peace are not felt, leading to all kinds of

The official, who preferred not to be identified, said Jordan was expecting all its creditors, not only the U.S., to understand the problems faced by Jordan and the very paradox of the Kingdom and Israel.

'They are talking about free trade and opening up of economies," said the official. "What is the logic behind opening up two economics where one (Jordan) has a per capita income of \$1,000 and the other (Israel) has \$11,000?" he asked. "There has to be a better compatibility and for this Jordan needs external assistance in whatever

form." Several European diplomats in Amman say it is unlikely that their governments would rush into offering direct debt relief to Jordan in the footsteps of the U.S.
"The Paris Club has just

reached an agreement on rescheduling, and it is un-likely that European gov-ernments would be willing to follow the American example," said a senior European diplomat.

The Jordanian official countered: "rescheduling does not mean that our burden is allevi. 'ed; we are only putting off the pay-meot of the debts. The burden remains very much on the country."

Japan, another major creditor of Jordan accounting for about \$1.3 billion of the Kingdom's foreign dehts, argues that it is unable to extend debt writeoff because of a legislative constraint that bars the Tokyo government from doing so. However, Japan is ready to make available more funds to Jordan to raise the Kingdom's economic performance to a level where it is able to repay its

Another pitfall is a Japanese regulation that limited government aid to countries which have received debt relief in the form of direct write-off. But diplomatic sources say that the Tokyo government would be able to rise over this problem.

There are other means to extend aid to Jordan," said the senior official without directly referring to Japan. "There are concessionary loans as well as grants that countries could provide to help to address its problems.'

"In the final analysis," said the official, "what matters to us here is the fact that Jordan's courageous step forward. despite all the risks involved, and hopes that its contribution would bring about a global peace in such a vital region as the Middle East, should not be

Slain woman's sister , to come to Jordan

MORRISTOWN, N.J. (AP) - A woman's bid to gain custody of her slain sister's children gained strength Thursday when His Majesty King Hussein invited her to Jordan to present evidence that she was financially able to care for her niece and nephew.

Meanwhile, Morris County prosecutor W. Michael Murphy Jr. conceded that Mohammad Ismail Abequa propably would not be extradited and would be tried in Jordan, where he remains in

There, is no extradition. treaty between the United States and Jordan. Mr. Murphy has offered to assist in Mr. Abequa's prosecution in

Mr. Abequa fled to Jordan with his children after killing his 40-year-old wife, Nihal Abequa, on July 4, authorities have said. She was found in her apart-

ment two days later, strangled, beaten and stuffed under a bed. Mr. Abequa was captured in Jordan earlier this month and has since confessed to killing his wife, King Hussein invited Nesime Dokur and her attorney to travel to Jordan in the next few days. Ms. Dokur said she received the invitation via U.S. senator Frank Lautenberg. At a news con-ference, Ms. Dokur said she was assured she would return

home with the children. "It's not if I return with the children - I will return with there," the said. "I am not going to visit them,"

Ms. Dokur's attorney, Nancy Feinberg, said Jordanian officials want to see, proof that Ms. Dokur is financially able to care for 6-year-old Lisa and 3-yearold Sami.

The children now are bein cared for hy Mr. Abequa's mother, Samiha. Mr. Abequa's brother, Yahya Abequa, has said he will fight for his family's right to keep the children in Jordan.

"We have been reassured that this will be an informal, quick hearing and we will return with the children," said Mr. Feinberg.

Romania promises to import more from Jordan

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — A senior Romanian government official has opened talks with the Jordanian business sector and government officials on promoting trade exchanges and overland transport facilities.

Costantine Soare, who is head of the Middle East department at the Romanian trade ministry, Thursday held preliminary discussions with Knaldoun Abu Hassan, president of the Amman Chamber of Industry, and planned-to resume talks Saturday. Mr. Soare, who arrived

Thursday at the head of a Romanian team, plans to stay until Tuesday to finalise Agency, Petra.

agreements on several topics, according to Romanian

embassy sources here.
At his meeeting with Mr. Abu Hassan, Mr. Soare promised that his government would encourage the increase of Romanian imports from Jordan.

Mr. Abu Hassan said at the meeting that the balance of trade between the two countries was heavily in favour of Romania which last year sold Jordan JD26.3 million worth

Mr. Abu Hassan called on Romania to buy more Jordanian phosphate, potash, fertilisers, electrical appliances, electric cahles and medicines, according to the Jordan News

Fatal road accident ends tragically for newlyweds

By Rana Husseini Special to the Jordan Times AMMAN — Six survivors of a road accident that claimed the lives of a bridegroom and four other people Thursday on the Ruweished road were listed in fair to serious con-

dition. The survivors were

rushed to King Hussein Medical Centre by helicopter, hospital and police sources said. A police official told the Jordan Times that the accident involved a car transporting members of an Iraqi and a Jordanian family. He said the driver of the

car attempted to overtake a

vehicle and met head-on

with a trailer coming from the other direction. According to the police official, the car, carrying newlyweds from Iraq to

Amman, was completely

wrecked. He said the groom was killed, and the bride is listed in crincal condition. The trailer driver was unhurt. *

According to an official at King Hussein Medical Centre, two victims are listed in critical condition in the intensive care unit.

He added that one of the victims, Noor Abdul Ghani, a one-year-old, suffered minor injuries and is expected to survive.



Rock artists of the Dead Sea Fishing Club perform at the Gerasia Theatre of Creativity at the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts (Photo by Yousef Al 'Allan)

Dead Sea Fishing Club tries to foot the bill

By Angham Tamimi pecial to the Jordan Times

MMAN — Although the Dead Sea Fishing Club attracted the largest audieace among all other festimies of Garasia Theatre of Creativity Thursday night at the Jerash Festival of Culture and Arts, the group failed to present what was billed on the

Garasia Theatre Director Mohammad Mashariqa promised the public to infroduce oriental hines, a of oriental hives of rock N'roll, but the Dead Sea Pishing Clinh pull that sound together and instead performed normal rock-Toll throwing in an

the loud exciting sounds of their preferred rock artists, such as: Aerosmith, The Beatles, Bon Jovi, Bruce Springsteen, The Eagles, Elvis Presely, Eric Clap-ton, Guns'n'Roses, Iron Maiden, Metallica, Nirva-na, Paul McCartney, Pink Floyd, Poison, The Police, Queen, R.E.M., Spin Doc-

tors, U2, and Ugly Kid Joe

among many others. To explain, Jesse Juma, the band manager told the Jordan Times: "We have our own style ... to imitate rock'n'roll singers. Mohammad Mashariqa asked us to play oriental hlues only three days before the show. So, we in turn asked two other musicians to join us and play on oriental instruments hecause all of the cluh's members are specialised in non-

Arab instruments.

"Unfortunately, the guys who were supposed to play with us did not show up. So, what could we do? Tell the public there is no show? We played and did what we could," said Mr. Juma.

Garasia Theatre of Creativity planned to present genius works ... new ideas in the fields of theatre, music and poetry, but it seemed that the audience sitting on the rocks and columns and standing by the entrance, enjoyed the show nevertheless. Some of the audience, hy the end of the performance, began rocking and swaying with the young

Mohammad Mashariqa

felt sad and upset, because

his promise came undone.

He felt as if the audience

was cheated, so, he asked

the band to stop playing.

groups rhythms.

After the sbow, the group expressed disappointment at Mr. Mashariga's action.

"He should appreciate the group, because Pink Floyd, The Eagles, U2, and other great international groups would not have come to Jordan to perform of the Jerash Festival," said Mr. Jnma. "And Elvis Presely is dead. So, we play them ... come and see them live. We tried to introduce the best ... just like the original."

George Najjar, one of the musicians said that they are not pretending to be the best band ever known, but they are really good enough, he thinks. They can entertain the audience, which interacts with them whoever and whenever they performed, he added.

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Venice

announces line-up for 1994

film festival

VENICE. Italy (AP) —

Seeking to expand the cultural and technical variety of

the Venice Film Festival.

organisers announced a line-

up spanning from blockbus-

ter American director Oliver

Stone to the 16-millimetre

reel of 24-year-old French

novice Karim Dridi. Stone's

Natural Born Killers and Dri-

di's Pigalle - the name nf a

Paris red-light district - are

among 15 films hy directors

from 12 nations competing

for the festival's top prize, the Golden Lion. The 51st

edition of the festival runs

from Sept. 1 to Sept. 12. The

festival's director, Gillo Pon-tecorvo, said efforts were

made to keep the film com-

petition as international as

possible. But like last year,

American directors dominate

the non-cumpeting films.

Seven of the 12 to be shown

ont-of-competition are

American-made, including Forrest Gump, by Robert Zemeckis; Tim Burton's The

Nightmare Before Christmas.

by Henry Selick and Bullets

Over Broadway by Woody

Allen. The two American

films in the festival competi-

tion are Stone's and Alexander Rockwell's Taxi Dancer.

France also has two films

going after the Lion: Pigalle

and entered by the Czech Republic and Britain; Una

Sombra Ya Pronto Seras (A

Shadow You Will Soon Be)

hy Hector Olivera of Argen-

tina; Le Cri Du Coeur (Cries Of The Heart) by 'Idrissa'' Ouedraogo of Burkina Faso; Aiqing Wars'ai (Love) by Ts'ai Ming-Liang'of Taiwan and Trae Irmae

Taiwan and Tres Irmaos

ican Robert Altman and

Trois Couleurs Blen (Three

Colours, Blue) by Poland's

(Three Brothers) by Teresa

and september

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Most of Latin America is against U.S. invading Haiti

UNITED NATIONS (AFP) Most Latin American and Caribbean nations have come out against a military intervention to restore democracy in Haiti, as proposed by the United States, diplomats

The regional Latin American and Caribbean Group (GRULAC), at a meeting bere Thursday decided to request "giving more time for international sanctions and negotiations to work" their influence on Haiti's military leaders, said Mexico's Deputv Ambassadnı Gustavn

Fritz Longchamp, who represents Haiti's legal government under exiled President Jean-Bertrand Aristide, said the strongest opposition to an intervention came from Colombia, the Dominican Republic, Mexico and Uru-

guay.

Longchamp said be would back the use of force to evict the military commanders in Haitl who overthrew Mr. Aristide in September

A U.S. proposal for military intervention, presented Monday to the U.N. Security Council, has raised concern amnng the five permanent and 10 rotating Council members, thwarting the chance of it being approved Friday as

Latin American diplomats said the Council would pass the proposal, sooner or later, spite their group's opposition. Argentina and Brazil are the only GRULAC members on the Council at pre-

Argentinian diplomats said their government backed the proposal and is prepared to contribute "around 600 soldiers" to a multinational intervention force, which would be led, financed and largely manned by the United States.

Brazil opposes a military intervention and has pointed out that Chapter VII of the U.N. Charter, invnked by the U.S. proposal, sanctions the use of force only when world peace and security are threatend. Although the Haitian crisis

presents no such threat, U.N. Secretary-General Boutros Ghali has backed the U.S. initiative and recommended creating an international force to restore Mr. Aristide

The U.N. chief's view on the issue, included in a report last week, was criticised by GRULAC members, some of wbom regretted his omission of any possible negotiated solution to the Haitian prob-As a first step, the U.S. hlueprint calls for the deploy-

ment in Haiti of a multinational force to overthrow the coup leaders and reinstate Mr. Aristide. After a "stable environ-

said the union was undecided

on whether to attend the

journed tn Tuesday. His detention has thrown

Nigeria into chaos with pro-tests and strikes that have hit

many services. Several other

unions are also demanding

his release and an end to

military rule in Africa's most

port, closed Thursday after

air traffic controllers went on

strike to demand better con-

ditions, was back in opera-

tion Friday after they sus-

strike coincided with those of

other airport workers in sup-

U.S. envoy Jesse Jackson,

who arrived in Nigeria

Wednesday with a message from President Bill Clinton,

said after meeting Mr. Abiola

and military ruler General

Sani Abacha that he detected

no shift in the stand of the

that he was legally elected

while Gen. Ahacha wanted

to press on with a constitu-

a new political agenda.

tional conference to draw up

Rev. Jackson told a news

conference if the two men remained inflexible the ten-

sions could worsen and lead

to civil war, adding: "Rwan-

da will be small by compari-

Rev. Jackson left for home

Mr. Ahiola maintained

The air traffic controllers's

Lagos International Air-

populous nation.

pended the action.

port of Mr. Abiola.

rival leaders.

ment" is a restored to the island, a 6,000-strong U.N. mission in Haiti would take on the task of nurturing the

rised last year, but has not come into being. Its mandate expires on Sunday. By then it is hoped the Security Council will have voted on the U.S. proposal.

White House spokeswoman Dee Dee Myers said Thursday that the United States hopes its proposal will be approved, but that it could still act unilaterally in Haiti.

In Port-Au-Prince, some 2,000 penple printested a possible invasion in front of the U.S. emhassy Thursday, the 79th anniversary of the 1915 U.S. invasion of Haiff. U.S. troops remained until

Also Thursday, the

Washington Post reported tbat Haiti's leaders were working on a strategy that would include the resignation nf General Raoul Cedras — one of the 1991 coup leaders — without accepting Mr. Aristide's return in an effort to gain international recogni-

Top general killed in Madrid blast

MADRID (R) — A top army general and two other sol-diers were killed when a car bomb, believe to be the work of ETA Basque separatists, rocked the heart of Madrid during rush hour Friday morning, officials said.

General Francisco Veguillas, director-general of defence policy, was passing in his armour-plated car when the bomh exploded in Plaza Ramales, just 200 metres from the royal palace. Gen. Veguillas' bodyguard

and driver were also killed and 14 people were injured in the blast, which ripped through the triangular square at 8.45 am. (0645 GMT), shattering windows and en-gulfing parked cars in flames. The force of the hlast, composed of around 20 kilos

of explosive, hurled one of the bodies onto a nearby balcony, witnesses said. No one has yet claimed responsibility for the bomb but ETA has often targeted

military officers in their 25year armed campaign for an independent Basque state. Local officials had little doubt who was behind the attack, with the ruling Socialists condemning the "futile terrorism.

"ETA assassins and those who support them are seeing their own members desert. and are taking note of their. isolation from the vast majority of the Basque people," a statement said.

ETA's last major attack in the capital took placek just over a year ago when five soldiers and two civilians were killed in two separate car bombs in June,

They last struck on June 1 when an army general was shot dead on his way to work, prompting fears ETA had managed to reestablish an active unit based in Madrid. Another officer was killed by a bomb attached to his car on May 23.

"We are tired of cursing these assassins. They target that which is most sacred — life itself," Madrid Mayor Jose Maria Alvarez Del Manzano said at the scene.

Friday's attack struck at the heart of the city's old section, close to the Puerto Del Sol Square — a favourite meeting-place for both tour-ists and locals.

The area of maze-like, cobbled streets contains several historical buildings. One of the city's landmark churches. the Iglesia De Santiago, was damaged by the blast.

The injured included several members of the Spanish national dance company which is based in the Plaza Ramales, close to the headquarters of the old Royal Guard.

"There was an explosion and I threw myself to the ground. I then stayed on my knees, praying," one eye witness told EFE news agency. He said he saw a props van belonging to the dance com-pany engulfed in flames.

Police were mounting a special operation to try and track down those responsible: for the attack which coincides with one of summer's busiest traffic weekends as millions of people leave the capital at the start of traditional August holidays.

Road blocks were being set up on motorways leading out of the city and belicopters will also take part in the

drawal was speeding up.

"It seems the troops are

moving out extremely fast

now," said Juri Kork, a press

spokesman at Estonia's De-

Russia's red, white and

hine flag was lowered from the nfficer's clnh several

fence Headquarters.

Nussbaum defends actions in Whitewater storm

WASHINGTON (R) President Bill Clinton's former counsel Bernard Nussbaum, in sometimes emotional testimony Thursday, defended his actions at the centre of the Whitewater storm as it enveloped the White

He said he regretted not having done a better joh for Mr. Clinton by being more forthcoming to the press as questions grew about contacts between the White House and Treasury officials, leading to his resignation last April.

But he made no apologies for his contacts, saying he had a duty to inform the president about a possible criminal investigation in which he was potentially involved so he was not "blindsided" by media inquiries.

Mr. Hussbaum was testifying at the second day of Representatives Banking Committee into the Whitewater affairs, which stems from Mr. Clinton's financial affairs in Arkansas in the 1970s and 1980s.

The contacts concerned a decision by the Resolution Trust Corp. (RTC), which investigated failed savings and loan institutions, to refer an investigation of the collapsed Madison Guaranty Savings Loan to the Justice Department for a possible criminal probe. Mr. Clinton was named as a possible wit-

Madison head James McDougal and his wife Susan were partners of Mr. Clinton and bis wife Hillary in a vacation development project in Arkansas known as Whitewater.

At issue is whether federally insured funds from the bank were funnelled into the failed investment and into retiring a Clinton campaign debt. Current White Hnuse

counsel Lloyd Cutler mid the committee Tuesday that no ethical rules were broken in the contacts hut said too many people were involved. baum said it was prop-

er for the president to be advised of an investigation concerning himself that was likely to lead to press inquiries.

Mr. Nussbaum also said he had been concerned about a decision by Deputy Treasury Secretary Roger Altman in separate, or recuse, himself from the Madison investigannn at a time when Mr. Altman was acting head of the RTC because there was nn legal or ethical reason to do so.

He said he was concerned about what Mr. Altman was considering doing "but I did not tell him to remain in the matter. I told him that if he was legally or ethically required to recuse himself, he should do so promptly.'

Mr. Altman recused himself from the Madison investigation and stepped down as interim head of the RTC on Feh. 25.

Mr. Nussbaum, who has returned to his law practice in New York, spoke emotionally about his White House service, saying he had been naive and should have worked mnre effectively with the

Talks to end Nigeria oil strike look bleak

LAGOS (R) — A strike by oil workers supporting de-tained presidential claimant Moshood Abiola is beginning to hurt Nigeria's oil industry, s sources said Friday.

Talks with the government on ending the stoppage was due to resume later Friday but a union leader said they were unlikely to resolve the

dispute. One union has said it would stay away from the talks in protest against the killing of demonstrators by security forces Thursday during clashes outside the court where Mr. Abiola is on trial for treason. "If they release Abiola un-

conditionally and accept all our demands we will end the strike within 24 hours," Bola Owodunni, president of the oil union PENGASSAN, told

The oil workers went on strike four weeks ago soon after Mr. Abiola's arrest by the military government. Mr. Abiola is widely believed to have won a presidential election in June 1993 which the military annulled. He declared himself president last

The strike by PENGAS-SAN, the white-collar oil workers nnion and NUPENG, its junior partner, has crippled domestic oil supplies and production of crude oil is being reduced. "We are beginning to see

the impact of the strike," a shipping agent specialising in oil cargoes told Reuters. The tanks at the terminals are no longer full," he added.

A senior staff member at a multinational said: "The downward direction which we experienced from early nn in the strike is now more pronounced." The two unions also want

an improvement in the management of the industry, the Nigerian economy's backbone. Their meeting with government negotiators Monday ended inconclusive-

"We are going because staying away does not let

them know our feelings but we do not believe the meeting will produce any results," Mr. Owodunni said of Friday's planned talks. A NUPENG spokesman

NUPENG President Wariehi Agamene said Thursday the union would stay away from the talks in protest against the killing of pro-democracy protesters. One person was killed during the clashes in Abuja and another killed in Lagos dur-

The Muslim-majority ing a march.
Unconfirmed reports said up to five people have been killed in the clashes. Mr. Abiola's case was ad-

Yasin Malik, head of the outlawed Jamma and Kashmir Liberation Front Shakeel Ahmad Baksbi, eader of the banned Islamic Students League, and 11 other prominent Muslim separatist leaders were arrested overnight during a protest at Kashmir's holiest Islamic shrine, the Hazratbal

They were demanding the Prophet Mohammad.

1 killed in Kashmir as troops break up protests

SRINAGAR, India (AFP) One person was killed and six wounded here Friday when Indian troops opened fire on demonstrators protesting the arrest of several top leaders of the Kashmiri Muslim separatist movement,

Kashmir Valley was paralysed by a day-long general strike called by Muslim militant groups to condemn the

removal of bunkers erected by Indian paramilitary troops around the shrine, which houses a sacred hair which. Kashmiri Muslims believe came from the beard of the

PHNOM PENH (AFP) — Cambodia's co-premiers have asked President Bill Clinton

to send a team to assess a

demand for military assist-

ance tn the Camhodian

Armed Forces, hattling the

namese hostages and abduct-

ing about 30 more, including

a Briton, an Australian and a

Frenchman, officials here

The U.S. sent 44 military

personnel and surplus road

construction equipment in

early July for a three month

non-lethal military aid prog-

ramme. The military person-

nel are training Cambodians

to use the new equipment

and to step up mine clear-

Western countries have

been reluctant, however, to

provide weapons and lethal

military assistance. Military

experts say it is far more

important to first train and

reform the armed forces, otherwise lethal aid could be

counter-productive as cor-

rupt commanders might sell

weapons to the Khmer

Rouge.
The government captured

the Khmer Rouge's Pailin

headquarters in northwest

Cambodia in March but lost

it to a guerrilla counter-

"We would be most grate-

far-left Khmer Ronge.

Russia returns navy base to Estonia tors at Paldiski, a former while, said it appeared the pace of the Russian with-Soviet Navy hase 40 kilometres west of the Esto-

nian capital.
But ITAR-TASS Thursday

cited the Russian head delegate at the talks, Vasili Svir-

m, as saying an accord was "practically ready."

Russia pledged last year to withdraw all troops from Estonia, Latvia and

Lithuania by Aug. 31. But

Moscow later went back on

the promise to pull out of

Estonia, demanding that the rights of the Russian-

speaking minority which

makes up 28 per cent of the

total population and of 10,000 former Soviet army

pensioners must first be

The naval base used to

service 12 ships, but only one remains, and "we don't even

have enough men to run that ship," said Anatoly Dere-

vyanko, deputy commander -

Estonian officials, mean-

guaranteed.

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Russia turned over its navy base in Tallinn to the Estonian Navy Thursday, two days after Russian and Estonian leaders agreed on the terms of the pullout of 2,500 Russian troops remaining in the Baltic state, ITAR-TASS news agency said.

No special ceremonies marked the transfer of the navy facilities in the Estonian capital, a Russian Navy

Originally schednled celebrations that were to be attended by the commander in chief of the Russian Baltic Fleet, Admiral Vladimir Yegorov, were cancelled for "unknown" reasons, the Baltic News Service reported. President Boris Yeltsin of

Russia and Lennart Meri of Estonia bad Tuesday signed an agreement ending the Nn agreement has however

Russian military presence in the Baltic nation by Aug. 31. been reached on the dismantling of Russian nuclear reac-

BELFAST (R) - Suspected

IRA guerrillas injured 29

people, including children,

Friday when three mortar

bombs were fired at a police

station in Northern Ireland,

Nine police died in an IRA

attack on the station in 1985.

was flooded with injured peo-

A nearby hospital said it

pobce said.

ple — many of them cut by flying glass — and a spokes- ber of casualties, both police man said two police officers were badly wounded.

"Three mortars were fired from a lorry in a car park outside a police station in Newry," a pobce spokesman

"Two exploded inside the station, one in the roadway and civilian.

publican Army (TRA), which has waged a 25-year war to onst British troops from Northern Ireland.

a three-year-old boy.'.

The Marin and Diane Kourys' A La index mic. Folie (To Craziness). Other 724 1-7 10 films competing include: La APPENDING Teta Y La Luna (The Breast in a supplier And The Moon) by Spain's pad made to a Juan Bigas Luna; Magle gant 1 at Hunter by Ildikn Enyedy representing Canada and Hungary; Heavenly Creatures by Peter Jackson of New Zeawlusco! land; Yangguang Canlan De Rizi (Sunny Days) by Jiang Wen of China; Before The The Manda Rain hy Milcho Manchevski

weeks ago and has not been seen since. A white statue of Snviet founder Vladimir Lenin that stood by the front gate for decades was recently nf Macednnia; Zivnt A packed and shipped to Rus-Neohycejna Dobroudruzstvi Vojaka Ivana Conkina (The The Estonian president has Life And The Extraordinary Adventure Of Simple Soldier Ivan Chonkin) hy Jiri Menzel

faced criticism at home from opponents who say he coneded too much to Russia, including social guarantees for some 10,000 retired Russian military officers. But Mr. Meri defended the

accord as good for Estonia and said he would keep his of at the nearly deserted, vow not to drink champagne until the last Russian soldier leaves Estonian soil.

IRA blamed as mortar attack wounds 18 Villaverde of Portugal. Last year, two filmstied for the top prize: Short Cuts by Amer-

Police blamed the Irish Re-

The spokesman said 24 of those hurt were civilians, one

Krzysztof Kieslowski. Mortar fire kills 41 reindeer in Finland

HELSINKI, Finland (AP) -Finnish soldiers accidentally fired a round of mortar shells at a reindeer heard that roamed onto an army target site in Lapland, killing 41 of the animals. "The animals appeared from behind a mound" after soldiers fired nine 120mm mortar shells into the air, said Defence Ministry spokesman Reima Helminen. "There was no-thing the soldiers could do to avoid the accident." The incident occurred near Kemijarvi, some 900 kilometres north of Helsinki. Shooting accidents involving reindeer happen occasionally in Lapland, where herders allow their animals to roam during the summer in search nf food.

Storm over £50 attack victim

sparked outrage hy awarding the six-year-old victim of a sex assault £50 (\$75) compensation and freeing her molester on probation. The Crown Prosecution Service said it had referred the case to the attorney general for consideration of an appeal against the sentence. Terence Hadenbarn. 43. was placed on probation for three years by Judge Jnhn Whitley and ordered to pay the cash to his young victim at the rate of £5. (\$7.5) a week, after being found guilty of gross indecency and indecent assault. The mnney would be a "reward" to the girl for going through the trauma of giving evi-dence. Judge Whitley told Portsmouth Crown Court, southern England, he would not send Mr. Hadenham to prison after hearing that he would be ridiculed by fellow inmates because he suffered stunted growth and has a glass eye. Ordering Mr. Hadenham to play the compensation. Judge Whitley said: "I think the girl should be rewarded for what she had to go through. I don't see why she should not be compensated in some way."

early Friday. French leaders at odds on more nuclear testing

PARIS (AFP) — A possible move by France to restart nuclear testing in the Pacific lies at the heart of a "major disagreement" between centre-left French President Francois Mitterrand and his conservative government.

The government is looking to carry out new tests after next May's presidential elections, when Mr. Mitterrand will step down, ending a moratorium which Paris has observed since April 1992.

To date, France has undertaken 192 subterranean tests beneath the Mururoa Atoll since 1975, according to the Commissinn for Atomic Energy (CEA). Mr. Mitterrand has already

admitted the issue is a rare but major source of friction between him and Prime Minister Edouard Balladur's Citing his authority over

the nuclear issue as head of state, Mr. Mitterrand has threatened to call a referendum if the disagreement on testing erupts into a serious

He recently said that res-

tarting testing was nut of the question as ling as the Un-ited States, Britain and Russia abided by their own moratoria. The United States recently extended its ban until September 1995. Mr. Mitterrand has also

expressed his belief that his successor as president will nnt relaunch testing at Mururoa, "because France will not want to offend the entire world by relaunching nuclear over-armament."

For supporters of the moratorium, a return to French testing wnuld put France in a very awkward position and comprimise its improving links with states in the South Pacific, who are virulently opposed to a resumption of testing around Мигигоа.

More testing would also make it difficult to extend the Nuclear Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) in 1995, at a time when France is pushing for the adoption of international sanctions against communist North Korea, whom the West suspects of making nuclear weapons.

attack in April, a defeat blamed on corruptinn and poor leadership amongst the officers in charge of the op-

eration. The letter did not specify whether lethal or non-lethal aid, but made it clear that the government would address the concerns about giving lethal assistance.

ful if the U.S. government could send a military delega-It assured Mr. Clinton that tion to Cambodia in order to make (an) assessment and the government "is firmly derecommendations," a letter termined to undertake the frnm Co-Premiers Prince necessary reform of the Norodom Ranariddh and armed forces." It also said Hun Sen, obtained by AFP Australia, France, Malaysia and Indonesia have already The letter was dated Tues-'appreciated our measures and put forward concrete day, July 26, thus coinciding

with one of the most brutal assaults by the Khmer Rouge since Cambodia sought to end its civil war with new Officials at the Malaysian embassy here, however, mid AFP that Malaysia had elections in May last year. "absolutely no intention" of The guerrillas ambushed a giving military assistance to train in Kampot, southern Cambodia. Cambodia, killing 10 passengers, slaying three Viet-

Australian Foreign Minister Gareth Evans favoured military aid to the Cambodian government in com-ments earlier this week, hut French Minister for European Affairs Alain Lamassoure said Thursday that it was mnre important to help Phnom Penh restructure its armed forces.

Senior officials from the Indonesian Defence Ministry also met Prince Ranariddh and Cambodian co-Defence Ministers Tea Banh and Tea Chamrath Thursday, government officials said.

They discussed ideas for securing help from Indonesia to train some 200 Cambodian soldiers in counterinsurgency techniques and 50 others in pyschological war-

Khmer Rouge guerrillas killed three Vietnamese hostages and moved three Westerners to a jungle base after an attack on a train in southem Cambodia where 10 people were killed and many were injured, police and train officials said Friday.

"According to information we got from (Cambodian) hostages released yesterday. the three Victnamese have already been killed and the three Westerners were. moved to the Khmer Rouge beadquarters," the director of the State Railway, Pich

Kimsreang, said. Police General Lora Min said the three Western men - an Australian, a Frenchman and Briton - were brought to meet the leader of the Khmer Rouge, Commander Paet, in the jungle arnund Phnom Vnur in sonthern Kampot province, 130 kilometres south of the capitai. Six civilians, two soldiers

and two train militia were killed and many others were wounded, a train official said. The guerrillas boarded the train, robbed the passengers and then marched some 200 people off into the bush.

Most of the Cambodians have been released. General Lora Min said that around 30 Cambodian men were still being detained by the guerril-There was no immediate reason why the three Vietnamese were killed. But the

Khmer Rouge have a visceral hatred of Vietnam, which

ousted the Khmer Rouge reg-

ime in Phnom Penh in 1979 and then installed a pro-Hanoi government. Ethnic Vietnamese in Cambodia are considered by the Khmer Rouge to be spies and interlopers working for

Meanwhile, the U.S. State Department has named a director for the office to investigate genocide under Cambodia's Khmer Rouge regime, but analysts said the choice reveals Washington's queasiness about the task.

Career diplomat Alfonse La Porta will head the Washington-based Office of Cambodian Genocide Inves-

Cambodia asks U.S. for additional military aid tigation, which will gather data about mass murder, war crimes or crimes against humanity committed under the Khmer Rouge.

Mr. La Porta has worked here on the department's ilateral assistance initiative for the Philippines and previously served as deputy chief of mission in New Zealand, said an official, who asked nnt to be ideaufied. But Some close to the issue

questioned why the State De-

partment did not select one

of its four or five highly-

regarded experts nn Cambo-dia, barely staffed the office and then based it in Washington instead of Phnnm Penh. Mr. La Porta will have one assistant. Non-governmental groups will conduct the investigation in Cambodia and deliver the data to the Cambodian government and possibly an international tribunal,

the official said. "Clearly, the United States does not want to establish this office and is trying to find the least offensive way to do it," said a Western diplomat who spoke on condition of anonymity. Craig Etcheson, director of

the Campaign to Oppose the Return of the Khmer Rouge, said Mr. La Porta was "certainly a surprise choice" but he added he was taking a "wait and see attitude" about Mr. La Porta's effectiveness. "The State Department

strongly opposed the passage of this law (establishing the office) for three years and is in the process of adjusting their policy and perspective to come into compliance with he said.

U.S. President Bill Clinton signed a bill on April 31 that included a provision creating the office in investigate Pol Pot and other Khmer Rouge leaders for genocide during their 1975-79 rule, during which an estimated one million people died.

'reward' for sex

MEVO (R)

A Minister |

State held | 1011 sa Serb leaders LONDON (AFP) - A judge ן ב תייו) ביתואש the after the telection. signing pair delieso came a to the plant of th See miner core

See heard the hard and a sand the hard th An Council of Burner of Bu And Serbean

See the March 11:

Venice announces ine-up for 1994 ilm festival

vENICE. Italy (AP) seeking to expand the cub al and technical variety of the Venice Film Festival organisers announced a line of spanning from blocks, and the to the I6-millione cel of 24-year. er American director Oline tone to the 16-millimete cel of 24-year-old Fred ovice Karim Ondi, Steed datural Born Killers and Date of the name of i's Pigalle — the name of aris red-light district of mong 15 films by director mong 15 times by director om 12 nations competing or the festival's top print the Golden Lion. The 512 dition of the festival tug om Sept. 1 to Sept. 12 Th

stival's director, Gillo Pon corvo. said efforts were ade to keep the film cometition as international a essible. But like last year, merican directors dominate e non-competing films. at-of-competition are merican-made, including prest Gump, by Rober meckis; Tim Burton's The ghtmare Before Chrisimas Henry Selick and Bullet ver Broadway by Woody len. The two American ns in the festival competin are Stone's and Alexanr Rockwell's Taxi Dancer. ance also has two films ing after the Lion Pigalle

J Diane Kourys A La lie (To Craziness). Other ns competing include: La ta Y La Luna (The Breast d The Moon) by Spain; an Bigas Luna: Magic nter hy Ildiko Envedy repenting Canada and Huny; Heavenly Creatures by er Jackson of New Zea-1; Yangguang Canlan De (Sunny Days) by Jiang n of China; Before The n hy Milcho Manchevski

bycejna Dobroudruzstvi aka Ivana Conkina (The And The Extraordinary enture Of Simple Soldier Chonkin) by Jiri Menzel entered by the Czech mblic and Britain; Una ibra Ya Pronto Seras (A dow You Will Soon Bel lector Olivera of Argen-Le Cri Du Coeur (Cries The Heart) by Idrise draogo of Burkina Fas: ng Wansui (Long Lie by Ts'ai Ming-Liang of van and Tres Irmaes ee Brothers) by Teresa verde of Portugal. Las Short Cuts by Amer-Robert Altman and Couleurs Bleu (Three urs, Blue) by Poland's sztof Kieslowski.

Macedonia: Zivot A

rtar fire kills eindeer inland

SINKI, Finland (AP) sh soldiers accidentally a round of mortar shells reindeer heard that ed onto an army target 1 Lapland, killing 41 o nimals. "The animals ared from behind a d" after soldiers fired 120mm mortar shelk the air, said Defence try spokesman Reima nen. "There was nothe soldiers could do to the accident." The incioccurred near Kemijarne 900 kilometres north lsinki. Shooting acciinvolving reindeer hapcasionally in Lapland herders allow their ls to roam during the er in search of food.

m over £50 ard' for sex ck victim

ON (AFP) — A judge

d outrage by awarding

-year-old victim of a sault £50 (\$75) comon and freeing her er on prohation. The Prosecution Service had referred the case attorney general for ration of an appeal the sentence. Terence nam, 43, was placed bation for three years ge John Whitley and to pay the cash to his ictim at the rate of £5 a week, after being uilty of gross indecenindecent assault. The would be a "reward" girl for going through Judge Whitley told outh Crown Court. on England, he would d Mr. Hadenham to after hearing that he e ridiculed by fellow because he suffered growth and has a ye. Ordering Mi. am to play the conton, Judge Whitley think the girl should rded for what she had hrough. I don't see

should not be com-

in some way.

World News

Russian police storm hijack helicopter, 5 dead

MOSCOW (Agencies) — Four hostages and a hijacker were killed Friday when police commandos stormed a helicopter and seized gunmen. nying to flee after a hijack in southern Russia.

Three children aged 13 to 15 died when one of the gunmen detonated a grenade in the cabin of the helicopter as it was preparing to take off from the airport at the spa nown off Mineralniye Vody, the Emergency Ministry said.

A fonrth hostage, a woman, died on the way to hospital. One of the four masked gunmen, all in their 20s and from the nearby rebel region of C echyna, died in hospital from his wounds, ITAR-TASS news agency

A total of 19 people were wounded in the hlast just after three a.m. local time (2300 GMT).

Russian Television showed two hostages on stretchers on the tarmac with blood pouring from their faces, next to the charred wreck of the military helicopter. Two gunmen lay on the ground, hands tied behind their backs and

faces covered in blood. Two hijackers were taken injured to hospital in Pyatigorh. Six members of the Omon special police force were also wounded, the

Emergency Ministry said. The hijackers, armed with four pistols and five hand grenades, commandeered a bus with 41 passengers on board as it made its way to Mineralniye Vody Thurs-

ROME (AFP) - Embattled

Italian Prime Minister Silvio

Reriusconi announced Friday

he would cut his remaining

links with his multi-billion

business empire in a "very

radical solution" to counter

mounting criticism of a con-

Mr. Berlusconi told a news

conference that his Fininvest

group would be run by a

manager appointed and con-trolled by "a high supervisory

committee," and that he

would "freeze his interests"

He outlined measures to

put a wall between himself

and his businesses, saying he

with Fininvest in a bid to

silence accusations that his

business and political in-

terests were too tightly en-

But under complex propos-als to wall himself off from

his media-based conglomer-

ate, Mr. Berlusconi retained

the option to name a new

manager of the group which

The high supervisory com-

mittee would be appointed by

President Oscar Luigi Scal-faro in agreement with the

speakers of the two houses of

parliament, and comprise an

independent guarantor of his

publishing interests, the

chairman of parliament's

anti-trust commission and

"three experts whose impar-

tial nature would be guaran-

teed," Mr. Berlusconi said.

their own candidate as mana-

The committee could name

has a \$7 billion turnover.

flict of interest.

Police in falk jackets blockaded the red-and-cream bus on a descrited part of the airport tarmac and negotiated into the early hours of Friday with the gunmen, who demanded \$15 million and

two getaway helicopters. Armoured vehicles roared along the tarmac and ambulances were at the ready. The counter-intelligence office urged radio and television to broadcast as little news as possible about the hijack because the gnnmen were listening to a radio.

Just before three a.m. the gunmen were given a helicopter and climbed aboard with eight hostages and three crew. As it was preparing to take off, security forces

"One of the bandits got suspicious as (police) boarded the helicopter and detonated the grenade. He was very nervous, probably he was on drugs," a Federal Counter-Intelligence Service official said.

The hijack was the fourth of its kind in eight months in this lawless fringes of Russia's southern Caucasus region. The three previous attempts, aimed at extorting sums of around \$10 million, all ended in failure.

The bus was seized just one day after the trial began of four people arrested in connection with an earlier hi-

TASS said the gunmen behind the latest incident had relatives among the kidnappers on trial and suggested they were trying to secure

Berlusconi to cut business links after row

"The manager, if he is not

named in effect by the owner,

could be appointed directly

hy the high committee," he

Mr. Berlusconi said he did

not yet have any candidates

in mind but clearly indicated

they would have to come

would "freeze his interests,"

in Fininvest and separate

himself from them, and a bill

was being prepared to go

then parliament at the end of

Aug. or beginning of Septem-

The committee would have

"carry out a control of

assets" within the group and

"approve" a proposal by the

owner of a "manager" who

would act as a supervisor with

been handed to three inde-

pendent people who had

been appointed in April to

study the problem and the

text was now being prepared.

place of the owner in all

matters except (those con-

cerning) his replacement. He

will have full control and

powers of supervision over all

of the activities of the Finin-

vest group," Mr. Berlusconi

become directly involved in

the operational management

of the companies, hut would

control their structural

arrangements and would be

able to aftend board meet-

The manager would not

"The manager will act in

The drafting of the bill had

before the government and

The prremier said he

from ontside Fininvest.

Previous hijackers were foiled after flying by helicop-ter from Mineralniye Vody to north Caucasus, a patchwork

of restive ethnic regions which answer only reluctantly to Moscow. The bloody end to Russia's latest hostage drama raised

questions on the murky status of Chechnya and underscored the tiny republic's reputation for lawlessness. In each of the four mass kidnappings in southern Russia since December, the kidnappers have either been identified as Chechens or

have sought to flee with their

ransom to the separatist Mus-

lim republic in the Caucasus Mountains. The four attacks had several other elements in common: Well-armed gunmen seized a busload of hostages, demanded millions of dollars in ransom and a get-away heh-

A spokesman for Russia's Counter-Intelligence Service acknowledged Friday that each of the past four hostagetaking incidents bore similarities and said they may have been masterminded by a sing-

le group. Chechnya also moved to the forefront of the latest episode when a senior Chechen official warned Russian authorities that any aircraft crossing its borders without written permission would be shot down without

The official, Prosecutor-General Usman Imayev, made clear the warning was

fended his brother Paolo who

had given himself up a short

time earlier for questioning

by magistrates investigating

allegations that he had paid

bribes to tax inspectors on

The prime minister de-

scrihed his 44-year-old

hrother as "a gentleman, one

Referring to a two-day de-

lay between the issue of an

arrest warrant and his

brother's surrender, he said:

"Paolo was not running away

... he was available to the

law... He was waiting for a

call from magistrates through

The prime minister h

come under increasing critic-

ism for an apparent conflict

of interest between his role as

head of the government, in which several former Finin-

vest executives are involved,

and his background as the

creator of the giant Fininvest media and retailing group. The crisis had caused alarm

in financial markets about

stability in Italy and the

capacity of the government to

deal with budget and public

The life has fallen to record

low points since 1945 and the

stock market has been weak,

in reaction to the controversy

surrounding Mr. Berlusconi's

brother and the premier's

humiliating climb down over

attempts to clip magistrates' powers to detain corruption

suspects pending investiga-

Berlusconi was issued Tues-

The warrant for Mr. Paolo

behalf of Fininvest.

hundred per cent."

his lawyers.

directed at both the kidnappers' get-away helicopter and any pursuing Russian forces.

A Russian Interior Minis-

try spokesman said it was this warning from Chechnya that led to the decision to storm the kidnappers' helicopter, Interfax News Agency reported.

In previous hijacks, Chechen leader Dzhokhar Dndayev has ordered his forces to cooperate with Rus-

Chechnya declared itself independent from Moscow in 1991. Russia does not accept the secession but has refrained from trying to impose its will by force.

In the December kidnapoing, the attackers were not Chechens. But during a fourday attempt to escape Russian authorities, the kidnappers tossed some \$2 million of their ransom money from their helicopter out over Chechnya hefore heing

caught.

Most of that money was never recovered.

The Caucasus is one of the most troubled areas in the former Soviet Union. In recent years bloody conflicts have erupted in Azerbaijan, Armenia, Georgia and Chechnya.

Prior to the founding of the Soviet Union, and since its breakup, Chechnya has had a reputation for lawlessness and banditry. Some of the most powerful international mafia gangs to emerge from the former Soviet Union were said to be run hy

day following accusations by Fininvest's tax director, Salv-

atore Sciascia, who said the

businessman had authorised

bribery payments to financial

police of 330 million lire

(\$210,000) during tax audits.

accompanied by his lawyers

Oreste Dominioni and Vit-

torio Virgo to the court build-

ing here, where his interview

with leading anti-corruption

magistrate Antonio Di Pietro

official, Gianmarco Rizzi,

turned himself over to magis

trates an hour after Mr. Ber-

lusconi. A colleague of Mr.

Sciascia, he was also the sub-

Mr. Paolo Berlusconi

heads several branches of

Fininvest, which is Europe's

second largest communica-

tions group after Germany's

investigated in 1993 and ear-

lier this year for alleged illeg-

al financing of political par-

Mr. Berlusconi's lawyers

had met Mr. Di Pietro

Wednesday to seek assur-

ances that their client would

not be imprisoned pending

investigations. The arrest warrant highlighted magis-

trate's fears that the accused

could destroy vital evidence if

he remained at large. However, Mr. Di Pietro said he would first have to

interview Mr. Berlusconi be-

fore deciding whether he should be held pending furth-

er inquiries, judicial officials

The premier's brother was

ject of an arrest warrant.

Another Fininvest finance

began around 9:00 a.m.

Mr. Paolo Berlusconi was

Returning refugees from Zaire bring cholera to Rwanda

GOMA, Zaire (R) Cholera, which has killed nearly 20,000 refugees in Zaire in 10 days, is spreading into Rwanda as the refugees return home, aid workers said Friday.

"Cholera is getting in and as health workers we know that it is impossible to stop but it can be managed," said Anne-Marie Huhy, spokeswoman for the French aid agency Medicines Sans Fron-tieres (MSF — Doctors Without Borders).

She said the disease could spread like wildfire in the war-shattered capital Kigali if refugees crowded in.

"We have great fears for Kigali. If people are trucked back in large numbers they will probably bring cholera into a city where the health infrastructure has totally col-lapsed," Ms. Huby told reporters in the Zairean border town of Goma.

Ray Wilkinson, spokesman for the U.N. High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), said 1,600refugees passed through the Goma border point Wednesday for home and a total of 60,000 were estimated to have crossed into Rwanda in

the last five days.
"But overall we still think the mood among most refugees is still negative about returning. Many people don't think it is safe to go back despite the bad conditions in the camps here," Mr. Wilkinson said.

Most of the 1.7 million refugees in eastern Zaire are members of Rwanda's Hutu majority and many fear reprisals from the Tutsidominated Rwanda Patriotic Front (RPF) if they return. More than 500,000 people,

mostly Tutsis and Hutu government opponents, were slaughtered in Rwanda since April by troops of the defeated Hutu government and

militiamen. The defeated government, now in exile in Zaire, is trying to stop refugees returning home by telling them that RPF fighters will massacre

U.N. aid officials hope the numbers returning to Rwanda will accelerate and are setting up clinics to care for them on the route back and in Kigali. A team of U.S. army en-

gineers was due to arrive Friday at Goma Airport to help in the nightmarish task of hnrying the estimated 1,900 people daily dying from cholera in the camps. Mr. Wilkinson said aid

workers might have to start burning bodies in Kibumba refugee camp, 25 kilometres north of Goma, unless the engineers could dig mass graves in volcanic rock.

"We have permission to burn bodies but no one wants to be the first one to do it," he told. Hundreds of corpses are littered around Kibumba camp, hloated and rotting in

UNHCR workers wept with frustration when a buildozer failed to dig a mass grave through the hlack rock next to a stinking pile of 400



A Rwandan refugee child sits abandoned in a refugee camp near the east Zairean town of

Goma (AFP photo) corpses while hundreds more

were dumped on the road-The first food convoy to

reach Goma by road through Rwanda since the RPF declared victory two weeks ago arrived Friday. In Geneva, the UNHCR

appealed to world governments for the urgent despatch of water tankers to Goma. Spokeswoman Sylvana Foa told a news briefing that despite pleas first issued on July 15, no tankers had yet arrived in aid shipments and relief workers still had only eight of them to deliver pure water to

over a million people. France began withdrawing its soldiers from Rwanda despite appeals from the United Nations and the United States to wait until a U.N. force is fully established.

A senior official in Paris said 300 specialised combat troops left the Frenchprotected "safe haven" in southwestern Rwanda and were flying home after being replaced by African soldiers from Ghana, Chad, Niger and Congo.

Defence Minister François Leotard said in Washington there would be a complete pullout of the 2,500 French troops by Aug. 21, when their U.N. mandate expires. A senior U.N. official said be hoped the French would stay in Rwanda longer because the United Nations was still having major difficulties putting together its force of 5,500 soldiers.

Impromptu orphanages have sprouted up all over Rwanda to try to cope with more than 100,000 children separated from their parents during three months of civil war and massacres.

Aid agencies, led by Save the Children's Fund, are pooling information to try to track down parents or relatives of children stranded in the confusion and bloodshed.

"We prefer to call them separated children rather than orphans that one gives up on. We hope many will be returned to their families." Chris Roys of Save the Children's Fund said Thursday. Mr. Roys is coordinating a tracing programme he esti-mated will take about 10

years to complete.

"We hope that if children cannot be reunited with their parents then at least we will find relatives," he added. 'Child separation centres"

across the country provide some stability for children traumatised by war and left to fend for themselves. The United Nations estimates there are 100,000 un-

accompanied children, but

The French school in the

Rwandan capital Kigali had heen converted into a makeshift orphanage and five or six new children arrive U.N. Secretary General

aid workers say there may be

Boutros Ghali announced Thursday he will form a three-member commission to investigate massacres in Rwanda in the past three months and bring to justice those responsible.

In a report to the U.N. Security Council, Dr. Ghali said he would soon notify the

council of the names of the three experts forming the . commission on genocide. The Security Council has requested creation of the commission in a resolution on

July 1. It will be hased in Geneva and should report on its findings before Nov. 30.

The panel is similar to one that Dr. Ghali ordered created in 1992 to investigate war crimes in the former

Yugoslavia. Two months ago, the U.N. secretary general blamed Rwandan troops for the massacres, which have left hundreds of thousands dead since Rwanda's President Juvenal Hahyarimana wass killed in a mysterious plane crash on

ger if they disagreed with his choice, Mr. Belusconi added. ings. Mr. Berluscom also de-Greek minister meets Bosnia Serbs on peace plan

Papoulias held talks with Bosnian Serb leaders Friday in an attempt to keep the latest international peace iplan alive after the Serbs' effective rejection of the

proposal.

His visit to the Bosnian
Serb capital of Pale, just outside Sarajevo, came as presswe mounted for international punitivie action against the Serbs following their refusal

to endorse the plan. The Bosnian Serb assembly said Thursday it was ready to talk further about the plan but listed a series of points it wanted clarified or changed. It said the proposals were incomplete and did not

meet Serb interests. Foreign ministers of the "contact group" which drew up the peace plan — France, Britain, Germany, Russian and the United States meet in Geneva Saturday to consider stepping up economic and military pressure on

the Serbs. Mr. Paponlias, whose country has shown itself sympathetic to the Serbs, said that in the time that remained before the meeting, the war-ing sides could still make

There is still a chance for that," Mr. Papoulias said after talks in Belgrade Thurs-My with Serbian President Sobodan Milosevic.

Bosnia's Muslims and

SARAJEVO (R) — Greek Croats have given grudging Poreign Minister Karolos approval to the plan, which awards their federation 51 per cent of Bosnia with the rest going to the Serbs, who now holds about 70 per cent.

Yngoslav Prime Minister Radoje Kontic played down the Bosnian Serb rejection of the peace plan and warned against military intervention in the war.

"There is no alternative to peaceful process," he said during a visit to Ukraine. "I think the world community and contact group will make a big mistake if they decide on military intervention to

solve the Bosnian crisis." In Sarajevo, Bosuia's Muslim President Alija Izetbegovic said the contact group would see the Serb response to the peace plan as a "no."

"For us it is a negative answer. I think that tomorrow's meeting in Geneva will treat that answer the same way," he told reporters.

The Serb assembly said it

wanted adjustments to the proposed territorial division of Bosnia and clarification of the capital.

determination, including the

the future status of Sarajevo, It repeated demands for access to the Adriatic Sea and for a "right to self-

possibilities for uniting with other neighbouring states" -a reference to Serbia. In Sarajevo, which has been blockaded since the

cial route into the city Wednesday, the United Nations reported a tightening in food stocks and a high level of ceasefiree violations.

Diplomats said the Serbs appeared determined to terst the will of the international community and the fragile unity of the contact group

In Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher said the international community must be ready to lift the arms embargo against the Bosnian Mus-lims if the Serbs persisted in their refusal to accept the

peace plan. "We must be prepared to impose increasing pressure on those who would reject

peace," he said. **But French Defence Minis**ter Francois Leotard opposed any lifting of the embargo, saying this would violate the impartiality required of the United Nations.

"If you lift this arms embargo, we are on the side of the Muslim Bosnians and against the other parts (of former Yugoslavia)," Mr. Leotard told reporters.

Britain said it remained

opposed to lifting the arms embargo but would not stand in the way of any international consensus to end the ban. Defence Secretary Malcolm Rifkind said on BBC radio: "It is possible that there might be an interna-tional consensus in that direc-Serbs cut the only commertion.
"If it happened, I don't think the United Kingdom would change its view as to its desirability, but if the rest of the international community

wanted to lift the arms embargo, then so be it." Rifkind said ending the arms embargo would make it impossible for U.N. peacekeepers in Bosnia to remain impartial. They would have to be withdrawn.

The office of the U.N. High Commissioner for Re-fugees said it was temporarily withdrawing its international staff from Bosnian Serb terri-

tory for security reasons. Temporary withdrawal of international staff at times of tension was usual procedure,

sources at the agency said. In New Delhi, German Foreign Minister Klaus Kinkel said Friday that the fivenation contact group on Bosnia might come up with a solution to the crisis at their meeting in Geneva Saturday.

"Keep your fingers crossed. We can find a solution. We hope to achieve it tomorrow," Mr. Kinkel told a press conference at the end of a three-day visit to India aimed at boosting bilateal relations. The Yugosalv problem is a difficult one. So far we have

"But we are not alone (to fail). Many others have failed, United States and other European nations,"

not succeeded in solving it,"

added Mr. Kinkel, who will be among the five foreign ministers to gather in Geneva

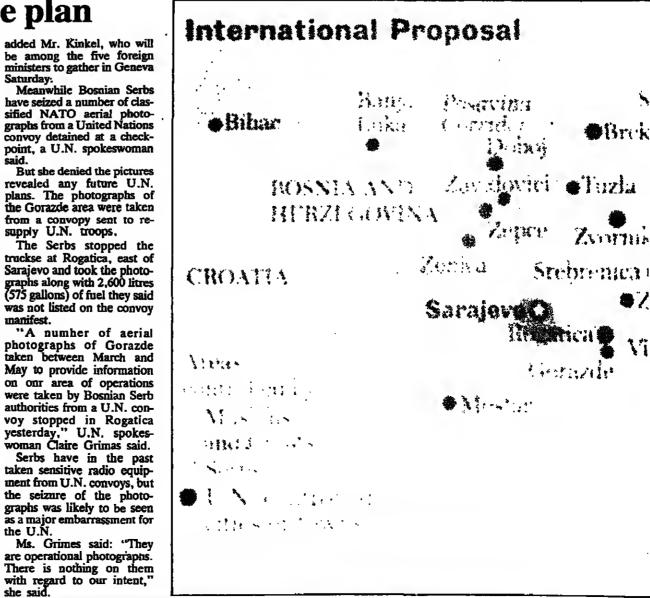
Meanwhile Bosnian Serbs have seized a number of classified NATO aerial photo-graphs from a United Nations convoy detained at a checkpoint, a U.N. spokeswoman

But she denied the pictures revealed any future U.N. plans. The photographs of the Gorazde area were taken from a convopy sent to resupply U.N. troops.

The Serbs stopped the truckse at Rogatica, east of Sarajevo and took the photographs along with 2,600 litres (575 gallons) of fuel they said was not listed on the convoy manifest.

"A number of aerial photographs of Gorazde taken between March and May to provide information on onr area of operations were taken by Bosnian Serb authorities from a U.N. convoy stopped in Rogatica yesterday," U.N. spokes-woman Claire Grimas said. Serbs have in the past taken sensitive radio equip-

graphs was likely to be seen as a major embarrassment for the U.N. Ms. Grimes said: "They are operational photographs. There is nothing on them



By Dr. Musa Keilani

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Need for democracy reasserted

WITH THE signing of the Washington Declaration last Monday, the Kingdom has entered a new era which will bring about significant changes on the political, economic and social scenes. Along with the changes will come new challenges, which would make the pooling of all the resources of the state and the people an essential requirement to maintain the stability, prosperity and security of the country.

In the coming period, Jordan will have to face the enormous task of making peace with Israel and moving forward in its democratic march. Some are arguing that those twin goals will be hard to attain due to the difficult decisions that the building of peace with Israel will entail. This reasoning is flawed. The fusion of the two objectives will most probably lead to the birth of a new Jordan, at peace with itself and with its neigh-

As far as the democratisation process is concerned, there is a consensus among all Jordanians that the only way is forward. His Majesty King Hussein has repeatedly stressed its irreversibility. So have the majority of political parties, which have proved over the years that even when they differ with the government, the law of the land is the criteria against which differences

The differences between the government and the opposition on the peace process is yet another reason why both should have as their priority the consolidation of democracy.

The government is pursuing peace with Israel because it believes peace will serve the interest of Jordan and its people. Opponents of the peace process oppose it because they believe the negotiations with Israel will undermine those interests. The stands of both the pro and anti-peace talks camps are rooted in their desire to serve the Kingdom and protect its interests. No one can question the fact that a democratic environment where debate is carried out in a healthy, responsible and peaceful manner is the best Jordan. Hence the differences over the peace process should offer yet another reason for strengthening the democratic process and its institutions.

The opponents of the peace process have thus far shown enough pragmatism in voicing their stand on the peace talks with Israel. Their right to their political views is one ensured and protected by the Constitution. But their means for expressing these views should continue to be constitutional and rational. Resorting to rhetoric and fiery statements is an easy recluse that can raise emotions. But it cannot serve any cause.

Strengthening the democratic institutions in Jordan will allow for a healthy political environment under which the people will be able to listen to both points of view on the peace process. That process is still at its early stages. In the months if not years to come, the advantages or disadvantages of peace will start to surface. If the democratic institutions are properly functioning then, all will be able to pass on their views to the people on what peace has brought about. But if these institutions had by then fallen victim to irresponsible behaviour, only one story will be told. Consequently, Jordan and its people will be the losers, something which neither the opponents nor the proponents of the peace process want.

ARABIC PRESS COMMENTARIES

NOW THAT the ceremonies in Washington have come to an end with the signing of the declaration that paves the ground for peace, all eyes will be turned towards Israel to see if it will be committed to implementing the declaration's provisions, said Al Ra'i Arabie daily. The world has listened to the Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin, delivering a passionate address expressing the Jewish state's orientation inwards peace with the Arabs and the people of the Middle East are now watching to see if Mr. Rabin will keep his word and embark on practical steps towards peace, according to the paper. Mr. Rabin has promised to speed up the process of demarcating horders with Jordan and giving impetus to the peace process hy yielding to the Kingdom's demands of its rightful share in the water resources; and therefore one can hardly wait to see facts materialising on the ground, said the paper. Jurdanians, said the daily, cannot feel they have peace before they see their lost territories restored and water resources given hack to them, and they also cannot feel they have peace with Israel hefore outstanding issues on the Syrian, Lebanese and Palestinian tracks have been all settled fairly and justly. The hall, added the paper, is oow in the Israeli court and every one is waiting to see whether Israel is truly oriented towards peace or that the Washington Declaration was merely a ploy to gain more time and ensure normalisation without ending occupation.

A COLUMNIST in Sawt Al Shaab daily, Ahmmad Dahhas, said that the summer holidays of the past and present still witness innocent people falling victim to stray bullets fired by those rejoicing over weddings or success in college and school. He said that despite the ban on firing on these occasions, one continues to hear blasts of automatie rifles sounding in urban and rural regions of Jordan. Firing at random is a show of total disregard to law and nrder and reflects backward-mindedness that should be promptly halted by the concerned authorities, said the writer. Continued violation of the law manifests the fact that some people cannot be deterred by mere advice or even warnings, and, therefore, drastic measures ought to be taken to ensure law and order and protect the lives of innocent people, the writer added.

Jordanian Perspective

Loud voices that betray obliquity

THE LOUD VOICE of Palestinian protestations over Israeli acknowledgement of Jordan's historic role vis-a-vis the Islamic shrines in Jerusalem is at best short-sighted since it does not take into consideration the fact it was the first explicit recognition by the Jewish state of the Arab and Muslim rights in the Holy City. At the same time it also exposes certain realities in the relationship between Jordan and the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO) and the underlying multifaceted policy the PLO has been applying when it comes to

The move by the Palestinian leadership to ban the circulation of Al Nahar, described as a "pro-Jordanian" daily based in Jerusalem, in the Gaza Strip and Jericho — the autonomous areas — is nothing but a clear pointer of the state of mind of the PLO leaders, who appear to attach little, if any, importance to the Jordanian role in the Arab-Israeli Peace

process launched 33 months ago.

The overriding factor in any debate over the impact of the reference to Jerusalem in the Israeli-Jordanian declaration is the fact that His Majesty King Hussein has managed to lay a concrete foundation stone towards securing the Arab and Muslim rights in Jerusalem.

Lest it has escaped the PLO's attention, the Jordanian success comes amid intensified moves by Jewish groups to consolidate the Israeli grip nn Jerusalem. The latest of such moves came with the assertion by Ahariyet Kohenim, an "ultranationalist" Zionist group, that it was planning to have one million Jews, immigrants and otherwise, living in and around Jerusalem in the next few years. The asserting has to be seen coupled with the systematic campaign by Israelis, led by their mayor of Jerusalem, to obliterate as many signs of the Palestinian/Arab/Muslim identity of Jerusalem.

For all technical and practical purposes, all indications, public and private, up until the Washington Declaration signed last Monday were that there was no PLO contest over the Hashemite role in Jerusalem and that the organisation, in its capacity as the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, respected the Hashemite family's right to assert and regain, in physical terms, its authority over the Islamie shrines in the Holy City.

The PLO's pointed side-stepping of the Jordanian statements that Israel's agreement in the Washington Declaration that Israel's agreement in the Washington Declaration

that the Jewish state would give high priority to the historic Jordanian role in the context of the Islamic holy sites in Jerusalem was not a political issue is most telling. The PLO stand gives rise to the sinister implications that the PLO never had any intention of respecting the Hashemites' right and all the talk we heard about Jordan-PLO understanding were onesided from Amman.

I disagree with the term "row" while the media describe the Jordan-PLO exchanges over Jerusalem. The Jordanian government has only been issuing conciliatory statements, clearly pointing out that the Hashemite role in the Holy City has no political ramifications and determining the final status of Jerusalem in political terms was left to the PLO and Israel under their Sept. 13 declaration of principles.

To say the least, the situation that arose after the issuance of the Washington Declaration is the direct result of the lack of coordination between the two sides, and Jordan cannnt be blamed for it in the least. After all, it was not Jordan which went behind the back of its partner and struck a secret deal with Israel in Oslo, it was not Jordan which kept its partner in the dark of its intentions and the stages of progress it made in negotiations with Israel despite the fact that the results of those negotiations had a direct bearing on the partner.

Had there been close coordination between the PLO and Jordan, there would not have been any "confusion" or 'misunderstanding" over what each side was seeking in their respective tracks of negotiations with Israel. If anything, the whole situation now looks like the PLO always pursuing its own interests without informing Jordan on issues that concerned Jordan hut insisting that when it is Jordan's turn the Kingdom should have protected "Palestinian interests" without clearly knowing what those interests were.

In essence, what it means to us in Jordan is that the PLO wanted the Kingdom to wait in the wings until the Palestinians conclude their "final status" negotiations with Israel and step in whenever the PLO wanted the Kingdom to be used as a leverage or pressure point against Israel. And, under this line of thinking, Jordan had better accept whatever the Palesti-nians felt like when it comes to Jordanian interests. Well, Jordan has had enough of that kind of a situation,

which it put up with for a long time. It was time for Jordan to assert its role and pursue efforts to protect its own national interests without prejudice to the rights of not only its Arab partners in the peace process hut also of the Arab World. That is what Jordan did by endorsing the Washington Declaration and ending the state of war with Israel, paving the way for serious and concerted negotiations on the core issues of conflict with the Jewish state.

If anything, beyond Jordan's repeated calls for close coordination with the PLO, the Kingdom also found the negotiating behaviour of the PLO left a lot to desired. There was little doubt that if the fate of Jerusalem was to be left to the PLO to be negotiated with Israel, the outcome would not have exactly been of the kind that the Arabs and Muslims would have desired.

It was ironical that Farouk Kaddoumi, the head of the political department of the PLO, found it fit two weeks ago to say that he was not happy with the level of coordination with Jordan. Whose fault was it, may we ask? Was there any reluctance oo the part of Jordan to extend all help within its powers to the PLO to help hoost the Palestinian negotiating position as well as the implementation of the Israel-PLO autonomy agreement? Did Jordan interfere with the Israel-PLO negotiations? Was it Jordan which was stalling over economic cooperation without giving clear indications of the Palestinian intentions in the occupied territories when the financial and monetary stability of the Kingdom itself de-pended to a large measure on developments on the Palestinian scene? If anything, it was the foresight and intense efforts of the Jordanian policymakers and executive authorities that raised the Kingdom to a secure position in terms of financial and monetary stability through carefully calculated moves in the regional and international scenes.

As to the specific issue of Jerusalem itself, Jordan never made any secret of its firm stand that it would not accept anyone's sovereignty except God's in the Holy City. There was no ambiguity about the stand and those who sought to attach political ramifications to that position were either shortsighted or had ulterior motives.

As far as we could remember, there was no peace proces under way in 1988 when Jurdan severed legal and administrative links with the West Bank to facilitate the Palestinian quest for liberation hut kept the Hashemite family's status as the guardian and custodian of the Islamie shrines in the Hnly City through the Waqf. More precisely, the Inrdanian link to the shrines is above all political considerations and it was always the Iordanian stand that the Kingdom would not surrender the Harbernite role in the boly sites an extensive Aurender the Hashemite role in the holy sites no matter what. Anyone who thought it was a political ploy or advance negotiating strategy clearly mistaken or misled.

It was in fact this hindsight of His Majesty King Hussein that proved its wisdom in the Washington Declaration. Those win may have political problems with it had better reassess and reevaluate the Jordanian moves in their entirety rather than isolating events and statements to find fault with the Kingdom and arguing that Jordan is undermining the Palestinian negotiating stand in the "final status" negotiations. By the way, it is also true that as/if/when the Palestimans manage to succeed in their quest to free Jerusalem from Israeli occupation, then they will have to respect the non-political, religious role of the Hashemites in the Islamie holy shrines there. But that does not mean any Jordanian wish that the Palestinians fail in their search. On the contrary, Jordan will be the first to rejoice in the Palestinians success.



THE WEEK IN PRINT

Washington declaration first step on the long road towards peace

By Elia Nasrallah

HIS MAJESTY King Hus-sein's meetings with Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and the signing of the Washingtoo Declaration were addressed by the local press in the past week. Domestic affairs were also dealt with hy some col-

A Columnist in Al Ra'i described the handshake between the King and Mr. Rabin as the first step on the nne-thousand-mile road to peace. However, said Ahmad Al Misleh, there is a hig difference between what came in writing and the establishment of peace on the ground and between . expression of hopes and sentiments and implementation of U.N. resolutions no the part of

In the view of Mahmoud Rimawi, another columnist in Al Ra'i, the Washington meeting would assume real historie proportions only if Israel proves committed to implementing U.N. resolutions and give back Jurdan its legitimate rights. The writer said that the meeting would also be of significance to the future generations if it results in better economie situation in Jordan, return of Jordanian-American traditional relations and an end to all foreign pressure nn the Kingdom.

Sawt Al Shaah daily said that the Jordanian people are all in favour of peace and they support the King's steps to regain usurped rights. In the paper's view, the meeting in Washington represented a truly historie event as it gave impetus to the peace process and would speed up progress on the other tracks.

A Dustour daily said that the Washington Declara-tion has placed the Middle East region at the threshold of a new era. In view of the new emerging situation and in the light of the new facts, we should consider that the state of war with Israel has ended and adopt a new line of policy and new way of dealing with the given facts, said that the ball is back in the Israeli court and it is up to Israel onw to end its aggressive attitude, military arrogance and desire to impose hegemony over the Arah World.

Awni Sadeq, a columnist in Al Aswaq, said that peace in the Middle East will benefit Israel in the first place because it would secure for normalisation of relations with the Arah states and the Arab World's open recognition. The writer said that through peace Israel would ensure gains it had sought in the past half century and therefore Israel had to pay for peace and should be made to return Arah rights in lands and water. But, unfortunately, he said, the Arabs have so far been giving concessions to Israel and, should this trend continue, the aspired peace would remain out of

Saying that the Washington Declaration is but a mere start for regaining Jordan's lost rights, Mohammad Kawash, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that the road to peace remains far away. Talks with the Israelis will prove difficult for the negotiators from Jordan and the other Arah parties, and therefore, said the writer, concerted efforts should be exerted at all fronts and pressure should be exercised on Israel from all sides to speed up the implementation of the accords reached with the

Arabs. Nabil Sharif, a columnist in Al Dustour, said that war is not an objective by itself and there was need now to follow the path of peace to regian Arab rights. Ending the state of war with Israel should be a welcome development since it would help the Arabs to rally all their efforts towards gaining, through negotiations, what has been usurped from them for so lnng and pave the ground for reconstruction and development, said the writer.

Mohammad Subehi, a columnist in Al Dustour, called for an urgent meeting hy the Palestinian and Jordanian leaderships to end differences over the status of Jerusalem's holy shrines. As long as the two sides strive for the same ohjective, there can be no alternative to join efforts and a new formula for close cooperation to deal with the challenges of the coming era, added the writer.

Reflecting on Israel's threats to Lehanon in the wake of bomhings against Israeli targets, Mohammad Kawash, a Columnist in Al Dustour, said that any new Israeli incursinn into Lebanon could have wide scale repercussions and would adversely affect the peace process. Despite Israel's signing of agreements with the Arabs and concluding a declaration with Jordan, its leaders are still oriented towards aggression under the pretext of evicting the resistance men from south Lebanoo, said the writer. He said to prove that it wants peace with its neighbours, Israel is in need of more than nice and eloquent words and should practice peace on the ground.

Nazih Gousus, a col-umnist in Sawt Al Shaab, drew attention to the continued suffering of the resideots of Fuheis as a result of pollution caused by the fumes and the dust spewing from the chimneys of the cement factory in the town. So many complaints were made to the concerned authorities and so many discussions over this issue were held but nothing has been done in save the lives nf the people, said the wri-ter. The cement factory has made a fortune over the years through wining the cement and marketing it in Jordan and abroad and it is the duty of the cement company to allocate part of its profits to dealing with the pollotion issue and protecting the lives of people, said the writer.

Ahmad Dabbas, a columnist in Al Dustour, addressed pollution in the Zarqa River, noting that the ineffective work of the Khirbet Al Samra Waste Water Treatment Plant caused the river water to be heavily contaminated. The writer said that the river water is finding its way to the reservoir hehind the King Talal Dam, which, in turn, supplies irrigation water for the farmlands in the Jordan Valley He urged the concerned authorities to take immediate steps to stop the pollution by upgrading the efficiency of the waste water treatment plant and through other necessary precautionary mea**LETTERS**

Sweden's role acknowledged

To the Editor:

AT A time when Jordan is passing to a new era of forgiveness tolerance and peaceful coexistence with all its oeighbours, at a time when the whole world is witnessing the historic courageous step taken hy His Majesty King Hussein which comes after assidunus endeavours to provide the Jordanian people with the best possible while emphasising the legitiof the Palestinians, I like many Jordanians would like to share in extending our appreciation and gratitude to all those who contributed and still do to bringing peace with its accompanying progress to this part of the

Yet, it is indeed a sad moment when tributes are made to many, excluding those who silently worked both at governmental and non-governmental levels, through direct and indirect mediation, to eliminate the sufferings of the people

I am talking about a society which achieved distinguished progress and development after refusing to adopt offensive wars as a means to achieve their national goals and opted for peaceful cooperation and coexistence; a society eager to let others enjoy the advantages of peaceful cooperation and which continue working hard to spread international social and economic justice by allocating appromixately one per cent of its GNP for official international development assistance. This same natinn learned to contain crises in its vicinity in a diplomatie, peaceful manner after long history of conflicts and hostilities with its neighbours and developed a culture based on cooperation and compromise, giving birth not only to personalities who are to be considered altruistic peace seekers but to a whole people who endlessly tries to essen the agonies of war victims, including those of the Palestinian people.

A nation whose different governments brought prosperity to their people by being objective free from illusions and able to assess a situation realistically. These same qualities which also distinguish the wise leadership of this country, Jordan, and direct its foreign policies.

As a student researcher on Sweden and as someone who witnessed closely for more than one decade the achievements of a people working laborously behind the curtains on international arena, I would like to use this deemocratic forum to refer to the pioneers of peace brokers in the Middle East: to Count Fnike Bernadotte, Dag Hammarskold, Gunnar Jarring, Jan Eliasson and to those Swedes like Sten Andersson and Mathias Mossberg who touched themselves the wounds of the people in Jordan and in the occupied territories and were determined to see that vinlence is replaced by political dialogue among the warring parties.

These Swedish efforts culminated in the Stockholm

document which was adopted by President Yasser Arafat on Dec. 8, 1988. Like many Jordanians, and while we accept our past enemies as our future friends, we cannot but remember with great consideration our past present and future friends, the Swedes, regardless of whether their assistance to this area was mainly addressed to our brethren the Palestinians nr

whether our economic problems and resumption of demo-cracy received enough understanding and attention or not. If the Swedes prefer to keep low profile and are shy to refer to their contributions, we as Jordanians, feel more than obliged to extend our warm thanks to a people who by being committed to human rights and international law in theory and in practice and through their taking part productively in international affairs, especially in the Third World are entitled to be classified as the model great nation of the late twentieth century. We here, as people of Jordan, with our country's modest natural resources promise. as usual to reciprocate the kindness and the assistance of Swedeo with the customary Jordanian generous reception of all Swedes visiting Jordan, whether businessmen. people of culture, tourists or officials.

> Madline Mannel Mentzhagopian, Amman

The Jordan Times welcomes letters and contributions from its readers on any subject they wish to tackle. Letters intended for publication, however, should contain the writer's full name and preferably address as well. Names can be withheld only upon request and under special circumstances. Letters are subject to editing. The newspaper is oot responsible for the return of unused manuscripts.

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NEWS IN BRIEF

Israelis believe in the 'new Mideast'

TEL AVIV (AFP) - Six out of 10 Israelis believe "a new Middle East will become a reality," according to an opinion poll published Friday. The Yediot Aharonot daily found 61 per cent agreed with the vision while 39 per cent did not. However, on the question of Jerusalem, 48 per cent said no one but Israel should have rights over the holy sites while 28 per cent were ready to recognize Jordanian rights and only three per cent Palestinian rights. Sixteen per cent would grant joint rights to the Jordanians and the Palestinians. The Dahaf institute questioned 504 Israelis on Tnesday and Wednesday for the survey which has a four percent margin of error.

Gore to visit Israel, Jordan in September

TEL AVIV (AFP) - U.S. Vice President Al Gore will visit Israel and Jordan in early September to boost development projects between the two neighbours, officials said Friday. The trip follows the first summit between Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin and King Hussein this week in Washington marking an end of 46 years of war and looking to future cooperation.

EU welcomes Washington Declaration

AMMAN (J.T.) — The European Union (EU) has welcomed the meeting between His Majesty King Hussein and Israeb Prime Minister Yitzhak Rabin in Washington on Monday. "The Enropean Union warmly welcomes the meeting of His Majesty King Hussein of Jordan and Prime Minister Rabin of Israel in Washington on July 25, 1994," an EU statement said. "This meeting, the prior talks between Jordanian and Israeli representatives which took place in the Middle East region itself, as well as the signing of the declaration in Washington represent another important breakthrough in the peace process. The European Union pays tribute to the vision and courage of the Jordanian and Israeli leaders which bave made such direct talks and agreements possible. The European Union expressed the bope that, on the basis of the declaration signed in Washington, further negotiations between the two sides on the solution of ontstanding questions can he brought to a successful completion in the near future and thus lead to an agreement which would be of paramount importance for a comprehensive peace in the Middle East."

Ramadan salutes Saleh's victory

ADEN (R) — Iraqi Vice-President Taha Yassin Ramadan said on Friday his country saluted Yemeni President Ali Abduliah Saleb for his government's victory over a secessionist hid. Mr. Ramadan spoke to reporters before leaving the Yemeni capital Sanaa after a two-day visit. He said that be had conveyed a message to Mr. Saleb from Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein congratulating him "on the victory of unity and the restoration of legality. What has been achieved in Yemen deserves our respect and appreciation." Mr. Saleh bad sympathised with Iraq during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis.

Mayors to be named in Egypt

CAIRO (AFP) — Egypt's village mayors will now be appointed by the government rather than elected under a new law aimed at weakening Muslim fundamentalists. Interior Minister Hassan Al Alfi gave final approval to the bill which replaces a 50-year-old electoral system and affects 1,700 mayors and 17,000 deputy mayors, the Al Ahram newspaper reported Friday. Muslim fundamentalists have gained considerable influence in Tural villages, y in the south, Gen. Alfi, wounded in an Isla militant attept on his life last year, presented the bill in March to parliament which approved it despite criticism from opposition and human rights groups who deemed it undemocratic. Nominations for mayors and deputies will take place in October and a government committee will then choose from the candidates. Nominees must bave "a balanced personality and security awareness," the semiofficial paper said.

Bonn denies reported criticism over iran

BONN (R) — Germany does not believe it was the target of criticism by the United States of Western allies maintaining close trade links with Iran, the government said on Friday. U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopber on Thursday sharply criticised unnamed U.S. allies for failing to join Washington's efforts to isolate Iran for its support of the militant Iran-backed Hizbollah. Mr. Christ-opher's remarks were interpreted as referring to Japan and Germany, one of Iran's biggest trading partners. But German government spokesman Dieter Vogel told a news conference Bonn did not believe it was the subject of the criticism. "No, the government does not feel affected. And

iraqi Kurds iift ban on PKK weekiy

ARBIL (AFP) — Kurdish authorities in northern Iraq have lifted a ban on the pubbication of a weekly newspaper run by anti-government Kurdish rebels in Turkey, officials in northern Iraq said Friday. The Kurdish Labour Party (PKK) weekly Welat was first published in northern Iraq soon after the April 1991 Kurdish rebellion agains Baghdad. It was banned some time later. Iraqi Kurdish information chief Jammal Haweisi said permission was granted for Welat to reappear because the paper had appointed two publication officials, Hakim Maulut Hossein and Serdar Rasshoul Chidir, thereby complying with Iraqi Kurdish regulations. Mr. Haweisi said he hoped Welat would "treat the Kurdish cause objectively and with realism so that we won't have problems with its publica-

MEPs to observe trial of Turkish deputies.

BRUSSELS (AFP) — Three members of the European Parliament (MEPs) will act as observers in the trial of six Turkish deputies from the Kurdish Democratic Party deputies, European Parliament sources said. The six Turkish deputies are accused of having contact with the outlawed Kurdish separatist movements on Aug. 3 and 4 in Ankara. Two social democrats, Yannis Sakkeliariou from Germany and Marje van Putten of The Netherlands, along with a German ecologist, Claudia Roth, will make up the European Parliament's delegation. Ms. Roth bas asked the European Parliament to provisionally suspend commission meetings between the parliament and Turkish deputies during the period of the trial.

Simpson trial set for Sept. 20

LOS ANGELES (AP) — O.J. Simpson's lawyer on Friday suggested there was a mystery witness who could exonerate the former football star and demanded prosecutors turn over investigative reports on the individual before a trial set for Sept. 20. "There is at least one witness who police have talked to some time ago... who has given testimony or evidence that is totally inconsistent with the theory of a lone assailant, and it's entirely inconsistent with the fact that Mr. Simpson is that assailant," Defence Attorney Johnnie Cochran said. "There are witnesses there that have theories of multiple assailants of different ethnic background than Mr. Simpson that we think should be pursued vigorously," Mr. Cochran added. Deputy District Attorney William Hodgman told Superior Court Judge Lance Ito that police were attempting to pursue that lead, that the witness lives very close to another state and that the prosecution would turn over all reports.

Two groups claim responsibility for **London bombings**

Combined agency dispatches

MUSLIM fundamentalist groups have claimed responsibility for the bomh attacks on Israeli and Jewisb targets in London that wounded 20 people earlier this week.

An anonymous telephone caller said Friday that the Movement of the Oppressed was prepared to "deal a very beavy blow to conntries which cooperate with the Zionist entity" in retaliation

for any attack on Lebanon. The Movement of the Oppressed "claims responsihility for the operations which were carried out in Britain," he said in a call to

The bomh attacks targetting the Israeli embassy on Tuesday and a Jewish centre early Wednesday were "in response to massacres carried out by the Jews and the Americans," the caller said. He threatened to "step up" violence on all fronts.

"We pledge to our martyrs and to the martyrs of Islam that we will continue to attack Jewisb interests all over the world," he added. The caller did not mention the bomb attack in Buenos

In a separate claim of responsibility on Thursday, a statement sent to the London-based Arabic daily Al Hayat said the bombings in the British capital were the work of the Palestinian Resistance-Palestine Jaffa

London was singled out because of its historie role in the creation of the state of Israel, it said

Neither group provided any means of proving their

Amsterdam airport police said on Friday they had released without charge four people held for questioning on a tip they may be linked to the week's bombings in Lon-

"After consultation with the public prosecutor, the four were allowed to continne their journey," police spokesman Alek de Jong told Reuters. He would not say where they were headed. Britain and Argentina have

linked the bomhings to Iran,

the Iranian-backed Hizbollah and other Muslim fundamentalist organisations. But President Carlos Menem of Argentina conceded on Thursday that there was no proof of Iranian involvement, while British Prime Minister John Major has also avoided naming a guilty party.

But in Washington, U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher urged U.S. allies to isolate Iran economically because of its patronage of 'terrorist" groups.

Iran on Friday blasted Mr. Christopher's call, saying Washington was "blinded by hostility" towards Tehran.

bility," the British prime minister said. "It would pro-

duce lasting stability - some-

thing unknown to anyone

now living in the Near East.

chance of growing prosperity

investment; better com-

munications; and of barnes-

sing the talents and potential

of all the countries in the

Mr. Major also called for an end to the Arab boycott of

Israel, recalling that the Na-ples Summit last month of the

Group of Seven industrial na-

tions had sought an end to

the decades-old Arab embar-

go on trade with the Jewish

state and a ban on companies

that are linked to Israel or

with other firms dealing with

In other comments, Mr.

Major said: "The interna-

tional community must unite

against terrorism which is the

enemy of all and has been

directed against those who

of us all. Terrorism bas been

directed at those who seek

peace and progress in the

Middle East. Terrorism is

perpetrated by those who re-

fuse to abide by the rule of

law and by the principles of a

"We must seek out its per-

petrators and bring them to

justice," he said. "It is un-

acceptable for any state to

tolerate, let alone support,

terrorism. The international

community must nnite

civilised society," he said.

"... Terrorism is the enemy

seek peace.

region, including Israel."

- of increased trade and

"And it would offer the

Britain offers debt relief

(Continued from page 1)

"The stand taken by the United States is unfounded and irresponsible. It aims to harm Iran's relations with

> "The irresponsible statement from the U.S. secretary of state shows the permanent and hlind hostility of the United States towards Iran," it

> other countries," the Iranian mission at the United Nations

said, quoted by Tebran

Tehran Radio has accused Israel of carrying out the explosions itself to mobilise Western powers against Iran and Islamic groups opposed to peace with the Jewish

"While there is no proof of Iran's involvement in the Argentine bombing, the U.S. Secretary of State condemns Iran under the banner of support for Hizbollah," the radio quoted the Iranian statement as saying.

"Such stands are groundless. They are irresponsible methods to which the U.S. is resorting to upset Iran's rela-tions with other countries," the statement added.

Mr. Major briefed bis Israeli counterpart Yitzhak Rabin by telephone Friday on the hunt for the bombers who carried out the anti-Jewish attacks in London, officials said.

Mr. Rabin thanked Mr. Major for the security services' efforts to track down the assailants, and both leaders agreed on the need for coordinated international action to capture them.

In Beirut, the spiritual leader of the Iranian-backed Hizbollah, Sheikh Mohammad Hussein Fadlallah, indirectly accused Israel of organising the bombings.

"Iran has absolutely no-

thing to gain from the attacks — politically or from the publicity aspect — and neither does the Islamic movement in Lebanon. On the contrary, their image has been blackened and they are under increasing pressure," be said in a Friday sermon.

"On the other hand, the state of Israel gains world sympathy and revives memories of the massacre of Jews," he said.

Israeli Foreign Minister Sbimon Peres said Friday that Israel had only "indirect proof' of Hizbollah involvement in the bombings.

In Buenos Aires, Argentina's minister said Thursday he knew who planned the bomb attack on the Jewisb charity last week and indicated that a "foreign government" may be involved.

Interior Minister Carlos Ruckauf, who returned from the United States Thursday, told reporters that authorities knew the names of some of the people in the bombing.

Investigators have concentrated on the vehicle in which the car bomb was placed.

Mr. Major said there were

hopes for a new partnership

and deeper understanding between Britain, Europe and

He also called for respect

for Islam: "We do not regard

it as a threat. It is completely

wrong to equate the extrem-

ism of a few in the Middle

East with the religion of

On Iraq, Mr. Major emphasised the necessity of full implementation of all the

relevant Security Council re-

He described Iran as a se-

rious challenge to the inter-

national community. Iran is

an important regional power

but some aspects of its be-

haviour are unacceptable and

threatening, including its

attempts to undermine the

peace process, Mr. Major

On Yemen, be said Britain

supported the decision of the

two Yemens to unite in 1990

and the democratic elections

of 1993 and was therefore

tion and dialogue.

to regional security.

the Middle East.

Islam," be said.

solutions.

RELIEF: A young Rwandan refugee receives a perfusion by 'Doctors Without Borders' medics Friday as his mother looks on in the Katale camp, some 60 kilometres north of

Goma in Zaire. The bumanitarian organisations attempt to curb a cholera epidemic that already claimed the lives of 19,500 refugees in camps around Goma (see page 5) (AFP

Arafat vents anger on Palestinian daily

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM (Agencies) — The Palesti-nian self-rule government on Friday ordered a pro-Jordanian newspaper to

A day after restricting distribution of the daily Al Nahar, long a supporter of Jordan, the Palestinian National Anthority (PNA) banned it despite outcries against censorship. "The line of the newspaper

contradicts the national interests of the Palestinian people," Nabil Abu Rdaina, a press advisor in Gaza, said in a statement. Al Nahar publisher Oth-

that Mohammad Dablan, bead of the Palestinian internal security force, ordered the paper shut. The closing of the estimated 5,000circulation paper leaves the Arab community with just one daily paper, Al Quds. Nasereledin Nashashihi, a

man Halak told Israel radio

prominent Palestinian journalist, also announced that he was shutting the weekly newspaper Akhbar Al Balad to protest the Palestinian National Authority prevent-

ing its circulation.
"I protest this decision of terrorism declared by the ruler of Gaza," Mr. Nashashibi

Arafat could practice a more liberal and free attitude toward bis political opponents.

said. "I think Mr. (Yasser)

An Nahar, which first came out in 1986, had never obtained publishing rights from the PLO, a condition all Palestinian publications have to follow since the mid-1970's, according to a statement issued in Gaza. "The paper bas not com-

plied with conditions.... the paper's line was harmful to the Palestinian people's national interest," the state-ment said, while not men-

"I have been told by reliable sources of the authority's decision to ban distribution of Akhbar Al Balad in the West Bank and Gaza," said Mr. Nashashihi.

tioning the closure.

"I closed it down, in a sign of resentment at the censorship, I prefer to stop publishing myself rather than have the papers burned, or closed down.'

Former Palestinian spokes-woman Hanan Asbrawi, who runs a human rights watchdog committee, said her organisation was following the case.

Jordan backs PLO quest Chief George Hawatmeh said

(Continued from page 1)

decision which has been taking effect until now. In the light of the salem. aforementioned facts, there is no contradiction between restoring Arab political sovereignty over Arab Jerusalem through Palestinian-Israeli negotiations and Jordan continuing to play its role in exercising its religious jurisdiction over the Islamic

It is thus clear that the Washington Declaration is only a recognition and a reaffirmation of the role Jordan and the Hasbemites bave been exercising over a long period of time in history to safeguard Arah and Islamic interests, including the interests of the Palestinian people. Consequently the Washington Declaration came to reaffirm the Hashemites' right to continue car-ing for the holy shrines and not a newly-established right in this respect. This right has been most manifest in the Hashemites' restoration of Al Agsa Mosque and the Dome of the Rock in the years 1924.

1944, 1952 and 1994. Astonished at statements and attitudes taken by some concerning this matter as carried by media reports, Jordan reaffirms that its principled stands regarding boly Jerusalem and other parts of the occupied lands are clear.

These principles are not in need of further clarification as they commit Jordan to continued support of the international legitimacy and U.N. resolutions and the PLO's continued efforts to regain political and geog-raphic sovereignty over all of

the occupied lands of Palestine, including holy Jeru-

These principles also reaffirm the Kingdom's determination to continue exercising its historic role with regard to the Islamic holy

Jordan is at the same time keen on pursuing necessary contacts with other parties in order to reach a formula that would safeguard the bigher Islamic interests and protect the boly shrines.

In Washington Minister of Information Jawad Anani on Thursday stressed that the Washington Declaration does not constitute a peace treaty between Jordan and Israel noting that a treaty cannot be concluded without settling all outstanding issues, including demarcation of boundaries and solving fonr or five other issues included in the Jordanian-Israeli agenda. In a televised debate in

Washington Thursday night, Dr. Anani said the Washington Declaration "is an important step on the path of reaching a peace treaty after solving all pending issues." "The options available to

us are very narrow and limited and our last selection was carefully studied," Dr. Anani added. He also said that Jordan

could have refused the negotiations, but "are we ready to pay the high price resulting from our refusal?"

He noted that the price "of not baving taken our final decision to negotiate with the Israelis would bave been much bigger than the price of taking it."

King ends historic visit

Israel's recognition of Jorda- Israelis and the Palestinians

nian borders, territorial and water rights, and Jordan's historical relationship with Jerusalem, as well as the dividends of peace, in terms of economic development and stability, "and you will realise that what His Majesty accomplished here is something that all Jordanians will be prond of," said a senior official.

True that there has been disappointed when the unisensitivity with the Palestified government failed to act nians over the inclusion of effectively or justly. He said Jerusalem in an article in the there was a need for negotia-Washington Declaration, said the official. "But His On Libya, he said, unre-Majesty has made it clear solved problems with that that the Islamic holy places in country wère an impediment Jerusalem should belong to the whole Muslim Nation and Mr. Major voiced support not to Israel."

for the Algerian govern-The King, in his meeting ment's agreement with the with the journalists Thurs-International Monetary Fund day, said religions and poli-tical sovereignty over the (IMF) on an economic programme and expressed hope this will widen support for the holy city were two separate issues. He reiterated that the Algerian government.

would resolve the future status of Jerusalem in the final status talks in line with the Oslo accord.

"On the political level, there is an Israeli-PLO agreement on Jerusalem that we are not part of," he said. "But as regards to Islamic boly shrines there, we believe the Islamic Nation should have (religious) jurisdiction over them."

The King went on to explain Jordan's historical ties with the Holy City, since the days the Arab Army under the command of King Abdullah saved them from inevitahle occupation by Israel to the 1967 war when Jordanian army officers and soldiers were asked to give up defending the city by the mayor of Jerusalem and other Arabs.

Now, the King asked, can't they (who are criticising Jordan) "acknowledge Jordan's important role in all of this."

Jordan Times Editoryinthe Jordanian decision is in the interest of Jordan.

"What the King has said at the White House last week reflects the King's feelings over so many years, and his words were an expression of the bistoric situation, and whatever the King said in Washington represents his thinking over the last 40 years," Mr. Hawatmeb said.

Al Dustonr Chief Editor Nabil Al Sharif said Jordan's achievement from the process and acceleration. Washington Declaration "falls within our strategy based on our acceptance of the United Nations Security Council resolutions which stress the peace option."

Sawt Al Shaab Editor-in-Cbief Abdul Salam Al

had been keen on restoring Jordan's rights. "What has been achieved

in implementation of the United Nations resolutions," he said. "When we review the Washington Declaration, we will find that it is in Jordan's interest," he said. Mustafa Abu Libdeb, editor-in-chief of Al Aswaq Arabic daily, said the main

objective of the Washington Declaration is to crystallise a political position and ensure commitment to the peace

He added that the interest and desire by all parties concerned in accelerating the peace process, despite the different expressions of terms used, does not prevent us from using the term "ending the state of war," Mr. Abu Tarawneh said King Hussein Libdeh said.

League accepts explanation

(Continued from page 1)

nent delegate to the league, as emphasising that Jordan's role in the holy places in Jerusalem has never ceased since the founding of the Hashemite Kingdom of Jordan.

The role is aimed at safeguarding the holy places and defending them," Mr. Qadi was quoted as saying. The Kingdom's stand is within the framework of its decision to sever legal and administrative links with the West Bank but to retain its role in the Islamic boly shrines in Jerusalem, the ambassador pointed out. Mr. Qadi said the refer-

ence to Jerusalem in the Washington Declaration only reaffirmed this Jordanian role and that there should be a clear distinction between political and religious roles over holy places since both aspects have different na-

"In implementation of Arab and Islamic summit re-solutions, especially the 1974 Rabat summit resolution Palestinian leadership.

also the Kingdom's perma- which emphasised the PLO's status as the sole and legitimate representative of the Palestinian people, the PLO has the right to continue the drive to regain all the occupied Arab lands in Palestine including Arab Jerusalem while Jordan will confinue toprovide the PLO with all possible support for its efforts to achieve that goal" the

> Dr. Abdul Meguid expressed the view that the clause about the holy places in the Washington Declaration "is a reaffirmation of a right and not establishing a new one and therefore the political sovereignty of the PLO, in the light of the Jordanian interpretation, is quite clear."

ambassador said.

The Palestine delegate expressed his satisfaction with the Arab League's interpretation and that of the Jordanian amhassador. He said that he would convey the result of the meeting to the

Peres scales down stand

(Continued from page 12)

in Cyprus, Mr. Peres stressed the need to "improve relations" between peoples and played down the issue of Israeli occupation of Arah territory and Israeli settlers. When asked how Israel achieved agreements with the PLO and Jordan without withdrawing from occupied Palestinian and Jordanian lands, he took the line adopted by Likud that Israel had largely fulfilled its "with-drawal" ohligation under Security Council 242 when it evacuated the Sinai. It did not go down well with the Greek-Cypriot journalists at his press conference as their country, like Israel's Arab neighbours, has been sub-

jected to occupation and colonisation by outsiders. Although Mr. Peres said that all the parties must be prepared to make "concessions for people," he seemed to indicate that Israel was trying to minimise its present "territorial concessions" to. perhaps, the Golan while making arrangements to ensure the position of its settlers in other occupied Arah terri-

When asked about Jerusalem, he stated that the Holy City's future should be "agreed" among the three faiths of Judaism, Islam and Christianity hut stated flatly that its political status was a

Rally in world commodity prices not over yet —analysts

commodity prices; spurred to their highest levels for years by tighter supplies and a massive influx of "hot" money from investment funds, show few signs of running out of steam." analysts say.

"The run-up in prices still has some way to go, especially in the more demandrelated commodities like metals," said one senior London-based commodities analyst.

Growing economic recovery in Western Europe and Japan should keep commodity prices bubbling along, he said, adding that inflationary pressures would stay mnted this year.

Among the star performers, coffee is near gith highs after two frosts ravaged plantations in Brazil, the world's biggest producer. Coffee traded on the London Commodities Exchange bas gained 326 per cent from last year's lows.

On the London Metals Exchange, aluminium has risen 41 per cent, copper by 50 per cent, platinum by 23 per cent and tin hy 23 per cent from their 1993 trough.

A host of other commod-

ities, from palm oil to Australian wool, have notched up similar steep gains, though analysts noted they had all risen from historically depressed levels caused by over-production and large stockpiles.

Some commodities like coffee have already peaked, while others, including cocoa, lead and aluminium,

Lawrence Eagles, analyst at brokers GNI Ltd.

One of the few dull spots is world grain prices which have fallen on more favourable weather for developing crops in North America.

Analysts said world economic growth was set to accelerate but added that many commodity prices, notably some base metals, had already risen in anticipation of the upturn and so further big gains could be discounted. Some commodities may

fails to match expectations or if there is no big dent in stockpiles, GNI's Eagles The key indicator for in-

vestors wary a resurgence in inflation is the price of Brent Crude oil, analysts said. Bnoyant demand in the United States, the world's largest oil consumer, and OPEC quota adherence has boosted oil prices to their highest levels in more than a year. However, analysts said

they were relaxed about in-

He said post-war recon-

more business for Hong

Kong while new opportuni-

Crude fetched less than \$22 a barrels. On Friday it was trading at just over \$18 a

Commodities represent only 10 per cent in less of total production costs, one noted. Wage rates, rather than raw material prices, are the critical factor where inflation is concerned, said Alec Gordon, the editor of the Economic Intelligence Unit's Commodity Forecasts.

(Continued on page 9)

should see further rises, said start falling if world growth flation prospects while Brent Hong Kong sees higher exports to post-war Mideast

ABU DHABI (AFP) — Hong Kong expects peace in the Middle East to open new outlets for its exports as it presses ahead with a worldwide drive to promote its products, a Hong Kong official has said.

"Hong Kong can expect much higher growth in its exports to the Middle East," said Ramzi Raad, Middle East consultant for the Hong Kong Trade Development

Council (HKTDC).
"This will result not just

from the peace process, which is ending decades of conflict in the region, but from a baby boom generation coming of age and a revolution in mass media and

marketing," he pointed out. Hong Kong's annual promotion drives, covering exhibitions and visits by trade delegations, have sbarply boosted its exports to the Middle East, one of the biggest consumer markets in the world. The exports bave nearly doubled every four to five years to reach around \$2.2 billion in 1993.

The bulk of Hong Kong's exports, covering watches and clocks, textile and garments, bousehold appliances and electrical items, go to the oil-rich Gulf countries, which in turn supply the former British colony with crude oil.

The rise in exports has made Hong Kong among the 10 biggest commercial partners of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) states -

Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Qatar, Oman and the UAE. Japan is their top partner, with their two-way trade standing at nearly \$35 billion in 1993.

"Three quarters of the population in Sandi Arabia is aged under 30 and the entire Middle East has one of the largest proportions of young consumers in the world, ensuring continuing growth of consumer demand," Mr.

"More regional trade in

goods and services among the countries of the Gulf was also Gulf states joined the General Agreement on Tariffs and Trade (GATT). on the way, with the progress of the GCC. Growing affin-The group would be re-named the World Trade ence in the region has also

Organisation following its re-cent free trade accord, to go created a sizeable market of consumers wanting to buy a wide variety of high quality into effect early next year.

"Hong Kong's exports to the Middle East region are

doubling every four to five struction in Lebanon and years but a much bigher Knwait were also creating growth will be achieved under the new economic and political conditions," Mr. ties would emerge after most

Dollar seen in a stage of correction from a heavily over-sold condition

This report, covering the period from Thursday, July 21, 1994 until Wednesday July 27, 1994, is provided by Naser Nabulsi, assistant vice president at Merrill Lynch-Dubai.

Overview

Fundamental view: The dollar's rebound from record lows set two weeks ago is not a sign of renewed dollar strength, in our view, but rather a correction from a heavily over-sold condition. Dollar-propping comments from the Fed and administration officials fueled a short-covering rally that was largely the source of recent dollar strength. Witbout a fundamental ebange in monetary policy, which we do not expect, the dollar is likely to return to following a downward path against both the mark and the yen.

Indeed, the dollar is already showing signs of renewed weakness against the yen as the U.S. enters into another round of trade negotiations with Japan over government procurement practices. So far, the talks remain at an impasse. We maintain our six-and twelve-month forecast of JPY/USD 95 and DM/USD 1.50. We caution, however, that over the next six months the dollar could dip below these levels.

Technical view: Aided by particular strength against the European currencies, the U.S. dollar rallied nicely last week, resulting in a 2.1 per cent gain for the dollar index. This was the best performance since last December. Short term momentum is still constructive, and although medium term momentum remains weak, there are signs of stabilisation. We are inclined to think that a good bottom is not yet in

place and that, once this rally runs its course, a test of the recent lows is likely. There appears to be strong support in the 84.00-85.00 area, with most of the bias above 84.80. A rally through next resistance through 90.90 would set the stage for a

Japanese yen

Fundamental view: The dollar's rebound against the yen was curtailed by signs that yet another round of trade negoriations between the U.S. and Japan will result in an impasse. Recent discussions on Japan's government procure-ment practices between Sadayuki Hayashi, Japan's deputy foreign minister for economic affairs, and Deputy U.S. Trade Representative Charlene Barshefsky made little headway. The U.S. administration has warned that a decision will be made hy July 31 as to whether or not Japan has unfair government procurement practices in the areas of telecommunications and medical equipment. If it is determined that Japan does have unfair practices, then the U.S. and Japan will enter a 60-day negotiation period. If a resolution is not found by the end of the 60 days, then the U.S. government will impose sanctions

on goods from the identified categories. That would make Sept. 30 the deadline for any retaliation.

The impact of any such retaliation would be little more than a warning shot as U.S. purchases of Japanese telecommunications and medical equipment are not large. Still, the implications of trade sanctions would not be viewed lightly. The U.S. current account is expected to post a \$130 billion deficit this year matched by an expected Japanese current account surplus of roughly the same magnitude. This differential, accompanied hy weak capital outflows from Japan, should pressure the dollar to fall towards our forecast level of JPY/USD 95 in six and twelve months time.

Technical view: The Japanese yen fell 1.0 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended July 22. Sentiment remains only neutral, but continues to deteriorate. Short term momentum still bas a downward bias, but medium term oscillators have begun to strengthen again. Nonetheless, short term divergences have set the stage for a correction hack to at least the 100.40-101.40 JY/U.S.\$ area, and perhaps beyond; benchmark support remains at 106-112. Resistance exists near 97.20, then below 93.

Deutschemark

Fundamental view: The dollar's rebound against the mark beginning two weeks ago has been attributed to a recovery from a very oversold condition. The mark failed to break through the all important DM/USD 1.60 level and has since renewed its downtrend against the mark. Though real interest rates are currently in favour of the dollar and would be even more so should the Fed tighten by the Aug. 16 FOMC meeting, as we expect, our forecast is that the dollar will be trading lower in six-and twelve-months time, near the 1.50

Factors depressing the dollar include (1) ongoing deterioration of the U.S. trade and current accounts accompanied by net outflows of long-term capital. (2) low confidence in the U.S. administration's economic and foreign policy, (3) increasing support for Chancellor Kohl, and (4) more confidence in the Bundeshank than the Fed to continue baving a hard line on inflation. That said, there is a fair chance that the dollar will continue to be erratic against the mark over the next few months.

Technical view: The Deutschemark lost 2.7 per cent against the U.S. dollar last week Medium term sentiment is at its most overbought level in almost two years. Short term momentum continues to work off its recent overbought condition as it works its way lower. Even medium term oscillators are showing signs of rolling over. However, the uptrend line from the February lows remains intact. A test of the recent highs may still be needed before a true top is in

merchandise."

Further weakness through 1.60 DM/U.S.\$ could still allow further weakness through 1.00 DM/U.S.5 could still allow for 1.616. Strong support exists at 1.48-1.52, but an eventual test of the 1992 high at 1.39 cannot be ruled out. Against the yen, the D-mark failed penetrate the top end of its May-July trading range and has pulled back below 62 on weak or deteriorating short and medium term momentum. Support is at 59-60. Above the trading range, resistance exists in the in the area of 65-66.

Pound sterling

Fundamental view: The British pound plummeted, with the mark, against the dollar before finding support just above U.S.\$/GBP 1.52. Two weeks ago, the pound had followed the mark to a new high of U.S.\$/GBP 1.5732. The pound traded first higher than lower against the mark and ended up back near DM/GBP 2,42. We expect that once the mark resumes its upward path against the dollar the pound will follow and be at U.S.\$/GBP 1.50 in six-and twelve-months time. Against the mark, the pound should benefit from an expected widening of the interest rate differential at the short end and trade higher at DM/GBP 2.45 in twelve-months time. Increasing signs of stronger growth in the U.K. indicate that short-term rates should begin to rise over the next six months while we still expect another 50 basis point cut in the German discount rate after the October election. Currently, the German reporate is fixed at 4.85 per cent for the next four weeks. Long-term rates in the U.K., like Germany, should be little changed over the

Technical view: The British pound fell 2.2 per cent versus the U.S. dollar during the week ended July 22. Even though the currency is still in the upper half of its long term trading range, it has managed to retrace almost 50 per cent of its rally from the April lows. Short term momentum is oversold, but remains weak. Even medium term oscillators are beginning to show signs of deterioration. With sentiment at its most overbought level since September 1992, and important resistance at 1.586 U.S.\$\text{\$\scrt{L}\$}, we would respect the possibility that a test of the recent highs may only serve to create an important

First support exists near \$1.51; the lower end of the trading range at \$1.46 is second support. The DM cross moved back to range at \$1.46 is second support. The DM cross moved back to near the 2.44 level in recent days, aided by short term momentum which is working off an oversold condition. Medium term momentum is still generally weak, so a retest of at least the recent low may be needed before a good bottom is in place. A break below 2.380-2.393 would set the stage for a test of the 1993 low at 2.326. The breakdown point at 2.475 is

Russian investors clamour to unload MMM stock

MOSCOW (R) — Thousands of harried Russian investors packed Moscow stock exchanges Friday, smashing windows as they jostled to unloand shares in the troubled MMM investment fund.

MMM's share price slumped on the Russian Commodities and Raw Materials Exchange (RCRME) as more investors crowded outside the building.

"There are thousands and thousands of people here.
They are breaking through
the windows," said Alexander Deduchenko, head of

floor trading.

When trade began, the bid price slid from 55,000 roubles, (\$26.69) until, to applanse, one investor picked up 500 shares at just 5,000 roubles (\$2.43) each. The price rose briefly to 8,000 roubles (\$3.88), then fell.

Exchange officials said la-ter MMM was offering to huy the shares at a mere 950 ronbles (\$0.46), compared with its pledges earlier this week to hny them back at 115,000 rouhles (\$55.8). But an MMM spokeswoman said she had no such information.
Outside MMM headquar-

ters, places near the beginning of the queue to sell the shares at the company's quoted rate were changing hands for millions of roubles (thousands of dollars), ITAR-TASS news agency re-

MMML, one of the most prominent advertisers on Russian television, was due to resume buying back the shares Friday at offices where the securities had been issued. But a companay offi-. cial said by telephone that the offices had not reopened. Prices fell to 55,000

Wednesday after MMM suspended its scheme to buy back its shares at most locations, sparking the biggest

scandal yet to shake Russia's emerging financial markets.
At the central universal exchange, the stock traded at 9,000 rouhles (\$4.37), head of trading Igor Ilyimykh said, adding that the price could easily fall further.

The price crash followed a series of official public warnigns about tax evasion and the company's financial health.

MMM has demed the firm is doing anything wrong. In full-page newspaper adver-tisements Friday, it con-tinued to insist it had no problems and said its shares could be freely sold at offices in 48 Russian cities.

MMM's press service said in a commentary published in the Delovoy Mir business daily that the firm bad met its obligations to its shareholders, who numbered 10 million, to the letter.

There has not been a single case where MMM had not been able to buy back its shares," the company said. It accused the government of creating problems where there were none and ended on a defiant note. "Whatever base deeds have been perpe-. trated, MMM will survive and will becomer stronger

and more popular." However,s Ilya Shkabara of RCRME's exchange department, said: 'This is the end of MMM. No money will save them because they have lost the confidences of inves-

Finance ministry officials likened MMM to a classic spyramid scheme, in which cash from new share purchases is used to buy back old shares at ever-rising prices. But bankers said the scandal was not affecting Russia's other financial markets. Alexander Livshita, econo-

in factors and services are ser

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(Continued on page 9)

HOROSCOPE

FORECAST FOR SATURDAY JULY 30. 1994 By Thomas S. Pierson, Astrologer, Carroll Righter Foundation

GENERAL TENDENCIES: the company of congenial friends You have some fine creative and loved ones.
ideas that need to be expressed LIBRA: (September 23 to Octoat the moment. Now is the right ber 22) Concentrate on how you time to share them with others can improve your environment. d to lay these cards on the Be more active and ga

ARIES: (March 21 to April 19) bave a desire for. This is the ideal day to get some special skill perfected. Be careful about taking risks of any kind. Sidestep a troublemaker.

SCORPIO: (Oetober 23 to November 211 Analyse your position well and know where you are headed in financial and

TAURUS: (April 20 to May 20) Study the situation at home and know how you can best improve h. Evening is fine for entertain-ing friends and relatives.

GEMINI: (May 21 to June 21) This is a good day for improving routines and gaining cooperation of allies. Avoid one who has been interfering in your affairs. MOON CHILDREN: (June 22 to procrastinate at this time. Take July 21) Plan how to add to irreatments present income so that you can be happier in the future. Express AQUARIU: happiness with your loved one. LEO: (July 22 to August 21)
Study your innermost yearnings and later you can make plans to go after them successfully. En goals. gage in your favourite hobby for PISCES: (February 20 to March

VIRGO: (August 22 to September 22) Plan how to improve ecoditions around you. The evening can be a happy time in

table and consult with experts. tant personal aims which you

property matters. Be logical io your method of operation. SAGIITARIUS: (November 22 to December 21) Plan how to have better relations with allies in the future and take initial steps toward such. Spend your money

CAPRICORN: (December 22 14 January 20) You have importan duties to handle now so don't irealments to improve your

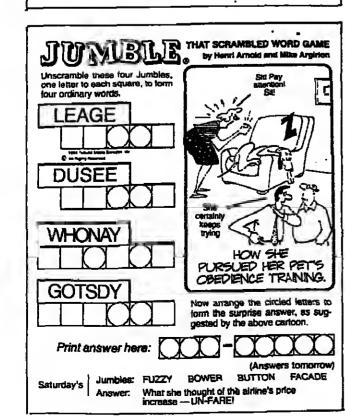
AQUARIUS: (January 21 to February 19) Try to please your associates more and they will do

20) Figure out the best way to

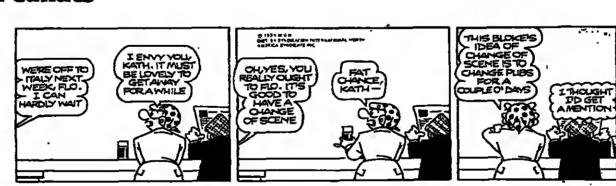
THE Daily Crossword by Henry Selzhandi ACROSS 1 Thick sinces 6 Angered 10 Reverberate 14 Desire strongly 15 lotterod destination 16 Poem by Tennyson 17 Flavoring plant 18 Forthodoen 19 Hange 34 Goal 35 B nai — 37 Winning 38 Actor's deceptive tryout? 41 Hit hard 41 Hit hard 42 Austin's state 43 Grg 44 Damascus native 45 Existed 47 Besecch 48 Gave a signa 50 Tableland 52 Wasteluty 7 Jungle sound 8 Set limity 9 Sometimes they re wild 10 Arising unexpectedly 11 Joke; 12 Immense 13 Smell 21 Arrhou and Bosc 22 Pungent bulbs 25 Struggles for breath 26 Spock portrayer 27 Love attext 29 Scatter me puss 33 in a fit way 35 Smear 36 Heroic verse i 39 Knea-length DOWN 1 Wound reman 2 Solitary 3 Razing to go 4 Conter 5 Vapor 6 Prohibit



Harriet's slipper-nearly choked to death on an old bunion pad!"



Peanuts



Andy Capp



Mutt'n'Jeff



avestors o unload

scandal yet to shake Rue emerging financial make At the central with exchange, the stock hade 9.000 roubles (\$4.37) of trading Igor llyimyki. adding that the price of

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(Continued on page 9)

COPE

(DAY JULY 30, 1994 ★r. Carroll Righter Founds:

e company of congenial for ed loved ones.

BRA: (Septemb r 22) Concentrate on hove in improve your environment e more active and gain impo nt personat aims ive a desire for.

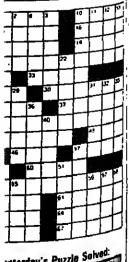
CORPIO: (October 23 t ovember 21) Analyse of sition well and know with on are headed in financial a operty matters. Be logical and method of operation

Occember 21) Plan how t we better relations with ale the future and take minal \$2 ward such. Spend your most

APRICORN: (December " nuary 20) You have imports ities to handle now so do ocrastinate at this time The eatments to improve you QUARIUS: (January 31 2

bruary 19) Try to please we sociates more and they will a ewise loward you. Take po e steps to gain your aims

SCES: (February 20 to Mar) Figure out the best was prove your surrounding uations come up now wh a bring benefits you had a



Financial

J.S. Boller in International Markets		
New York Close Tear 27/7/94	Tokyc Close	
1.5321	1.5328	
1.5744	1.5723	
1.3339	1.3525	
5.5820	5.37652	
98.43	98.44	
1.2735	1.2142**	
	New York Close Ther 27/7/94 1.5321 1.5744 1.3339 5.3820 98.43	

Surpean Opening & Sell a.m. ChiT									
Pocurrenty Interest States Decar 28/7/1994									
Served Cy	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MTTS					
.S. Dollar	4.25	4.62	5.06	5.56					
terling Pound	5.00	5.12	<u>5</u> .37	0.12					

Currency	1 MTH	3 MTHS	6 MTHS	12 MT115
U.S. Dollar	4.25	4.62	5.06	5.56
Sterling Pound	5.00	5.12	5.37	0.12
Deutsche Mark	4.75	4.75	4.75	4.87
Swiss Franc	4.06	4.12	4.18	4.37
French Franc	5.28	5.43	5.56	5.68
Japanese Yen	1.87	2.00	2.00	2.25
Karopeen Carrency Unit	5.75	5.87	6.06	6.31

Metal	USDVOz	JD/Gm ²	Metal	USD/Oz	JD/Cm	
Gold	387.35	7.68	Silver	5.35	0-117	•
21 Karat						

Date: 28/7/1994

mtral	Bapic	of	Jordan	Exchange	Rate	Bulletin	
						Dates	28/7/1994

Currency	Bid	Offer
J.S. Dollar	0.6920	0.6940
itering Pound	1.0593	1.0646
Deutsche Mark	0.4593	0.4415
wies Franc	0.5180	0.5206
reach Franc	0.1285	0.1291
apanese Ven®	0-7022	0.7057
dutch Guilder	0.3915	8.3935
-edich Krona	*****	*****
inion Lira*	0.0436	C.0438
leigian Franc	02000	

Other Correction	Date: 28/7/1994		
Сигтелсу	Bid	Offer	
Bahraini Dinar	1.2790	1.8330	
Lebenez Lira*	0.040235	0.041850	
Saudi Jityal	0.1842	0.1858	
Kowaiti Dinar	2.3140	2_3300	
Qutari Riyal	0.1888	0.1902	
Egyptian Pound	0.2040	0.2200	
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ALADOLK INDUSTRING	2,350	5.100	4.000	4,980
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LAPTHER INVESTMENT	11.762	2.380	2.210	
MITTERAL MODERN INDOSTRIES MARIAN TROUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.	130,507	5.230	5.540	5.780
	111,60)	3.750	2-750	2.72
GRASP TOTAL	6,212,511			

JOHNAN TROUSTRIAL RESOURCES CO.	111,68)	3.750	3-750	2.720
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AFM prices largely stable

By a Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN — Share prices remained largely stable at the Amman Financial Market (AFM) last week after recovering from all-year lows in the wake of the acceleration of Jordan's peace negotiations with Israel, brokers said Friday.

They said that although the general share price index of the market showed a decline of 1.7 per cent when it closed at 152.1 points on Wednesday, the last day of trading during the week, the overall price levels in the market vere stable.

The brokers, who cannot be identified by name in line with standing AFM regulations, pointed out that the AFM index is based on 60 major companies of the 110 listed in the market, and as such, fluctuations of the unlisted stocks are not reflected in the official index.

The weekly AFM report said that of the stocks of 85 companies traded during the week, only 18 had registered gain; 52 of them showed declines and 15 remained

The separate sectoral indices also showed declines, with the industrial stock registering a one per cent drop, commercial banks 1.1 per cent, services two per cent and insurance 0.01 per cent.

bullion markets Friday.

U.S. \$1.00 costs 1.3825/35

"Stability and optimism have returned to the market after a period of turmoil and confusion," said a broker, pointing out that the index went down to 142.1 points two weeks ago before starting on a recovery course sparked by the breakthroughs in the Jordanian-Israeb track of the

Middle East peace process. "Many in the market now believe that the prices reflect more realistically the actual situation of the companies concerned rather than the margins that were there as a result of expectations attached to the breakthrough in the Israeli-Palestinian track of negotiations," said

another dealer. "Ooe can say now that the situation in the Amman

(Continued from page 8)

Although booming com-

modity markets are bardly a new phenomenon, a striking

feature of this bull run bas

been the key role played by

the big investment funds, Mr.

This year buge amounts of

fund money bave switched

out of cooling equity and

bond markets into commod-

ities as investors seek to

Despite some funds mov-

Canadian dollar

Deutschemarks

Swedish crowns

Norwegian crowns

Danish crowns

hedge against a possible infla-

tionary resurgence.

Gordon said.

bourse mirrors Jordanian developments confined Jordanian control rather than anticipated developments controlled by external forces. added the broker. The weekly AFM report

said turnover during last week was JD10.6 million. 25.9 per cent down from JD14.3 million in the previous week. The industrial sector accounted for JD5.7 million, or 53.8 per cent of the turnover, followed by commercial banks with JD3.3 million, or 31.3 per cent, the services sector with JD1.4 million, or 13.2 per cent, and insurance stock with JD200,000.

ing back into financial mar-

kets in recent weeks, analysts

said commodities had be-

come an important part of

discerning investors' port-folios and would remain so.

In addition to the world

business cycle and the in-terest of the big funds,

analysts said structural

changes in demand were also

beloing to fuel the current

As vest populations of countries like China and In-

dia get wealthier so they buy

more, turning them into net

importers of some commod-

ities which they used to be

key suppliers of to the rest of

Russian

(Continued from page 8)

mic adviser to President

Boris Yeltsin, called Friday

He said there was a battle

going on for Russians' sub-

stantial savings. The fact that

economic stabilisation was

uncertain meant people were

unwilling to invest their sav-

ings over long periods

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commodity price boom.

A total of 4.4 million shares were traded during the week under 7,020 contracts.

Rally in commodity prices

They expected a gradual upwards trend in the market in the next few weeks before bulls move in for profittaking with an expected announcement uf a definite amount of debt write-off for Jordan by the United States. ceptible, a few fils here, a few

The high number of contracts

showed an increased interest

by individual speculators,

brokers said.

"The climb will be imperfils there, until the increase is substantial at the end of the trend," said a banking executive who handles AFM portfolios. "And then will come the profit-reaping.

Kuwait to start \$200m investment firm in Syria

KUWAIT (R) — Syria and Kuwait have signed an accord establishing a \$200 million Kuwaiti company in Damascus to invest in Syrian agriculture, industry and tourism.

The Kuwait United Investment Company (KUIC) would be the first wholly foreign-owned firm to be based in the republic, officials said.

This will open wide the fields for investments in (Syria's) production sectors,' Salim Yassin, Syria's deputy prime minister for economic affairs, tald reporters after the signing ceremony. He said the holding com-

pany, owned solely by the Kuwait Investment Authority (KIA), the government's investment arm, would aim to invest in agriculture, industry and tourism. "Syria is considered now as

a market that is improving and growing on all sides, thus it (KUIC) will give good lucrative results," KIA Managing Director Ali Al Bader Kuwait bas increased its economic links to Syria since

the 1991 Gulf war, mainly in the form of soft loans for development and a trade promotion agreement. Syria was a participant in

the U.S.-led coalition that liberated the oil-ricb emirate after a seven-month Iraqi occupation.

The new Kuwaiti company will start operating after gaining approval from parliament in Damascus. Officials said a law would have to be passed to allow KUIC to exist in

The company, with paid up capital of \$50 million, would invest in various sectors. probably concentrating on tourism to start with, said Sheikh Bader.

"There is no main field of preference, but the preliminary projects available for now are related to the tourism side, because our brothers in Syria are interested in them. and at the same time the Kuwaiti side has experience in managing and establishing sucb projects," said Sheikh Bader.

The KIA might increase the capital of the company should a need for that emerge. Sheikh Bader said in a response to a question.

The authorised volume is \$200 million, of which 25 per cent is paid capital. For the time being it is enough for the needs of the company and its objectives," he said. Sheikh Bader said KUIC

would open future projects for private and official parti-"The holding company,

when it produces projects, will not own them in full. It would own a majority stake in them and it would allow the chance for the Syrian side or even individuals in the Syrian and Kuwaiti private sector to invest," he said.

A Syrian ministerial committee currently visiting Kuwait held a series of meetings with Kuwaiti officials where further economic cooperation was discussed. Analysts say Kuwaiti in-

vestment in Syria is minimal beyond several hotels. The two countries plan to

start a five star hotel in the Syrian capital as a joint venture. The national carriers of the two Arab states also plan to start a joint venture airline. Neither venture has any direct link to the new com-

Syrian exports to Kuwait were worth four million dinars (\$13.5 million) in 1989. the last year for which figures are available,

for closer scrutiny of com-1.7880/90 Dutch guilders panies to ensure they were 1.3520/30 Swiss francs icensed, presented accounts. 32.77/81 Belgian francs paid taxes and acted in line 5.4377/27 French francs with their own prospectus, " 1592.8/4.3 Italian lire TASS reported. Japanese yen

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O'Brien misses world decathlon record

to push him. After the first

day, he had a 623-point lead

over fellow American Steve

will beause I'm not compet-ing against Hamalainen, so

there's not an extreme

amount of pressure to defend

my title or go head-to-head against him often," O'Brien

ity to conceotrate on the things I need to do instead of

always looking out and

saying, "I've got to beat this

guy or that guy to hold onto my No. 1 ranking," There's no Eduard Hamalainen nip-

ping at my beels.
"I like the fact that I'm

will try not to put much press-

ure oo myself. I want to stay

After a shaky start Thurs-

day, O'Brien stayed relaxed by listening to music, io-

cluiding Queen's "We are the

Champions" and the rap group Heavy D. and the Boyz.

"It gives me an opportun-

"I feel good about Good-

(AP) - Dan O'Brien fell short Friday in his bid to break his own world record in धार decathlon at the Goodwill

'O'Brien, seven points behind record pace going into the final event, needed a time of 4 minutes, 40.92 seconds or less in the 1,500 metres to get the mark.

But he failed to produce the hig effort he needed, finishing last in an official 5 minutes, 10.9 seconds.

O'Brien finished the 10event competition with 8,715 points, 176 points off the record of 8.891 he set in 1992 in Talence, France.

O'Brien began the 1,500 in a jog and quickly fell into last place. After that, he never picked up the pace and appeared content just to fin-ish the race.

It was reminisceot of his performance six weeks ago at Knoxville, Tenn., where he was 14 points ahead of world record pace going into the 1,500, and ran a leisurely 5:16.42. He finished that competition with 8,707

"My legs were tired after the first lap," O'Brien said. "I was just plain old fired. 1 ara a sprinter, not a 1,500-

O'Brien started with a bang in his record bid Friday, then tapered off.

He opened by winning the 110-metre hurdles in 13.81 seconds, smashing the American decathlon record for the event and matching his best ever in open competition. He then threw the discus 48.10 metres (157 feet, 10 inches), pole vaulted 4.90 metres (16-0. 3-4) and threw the javelin 62.20 metres (204-1).

Those performances, under steamy weather conditions at Petrovsky Stadium, gave O'Brien a total of 8,217 points, with one event re-

But the 1,500 metres has always been one of O'Brien's weaker eveots.

"If the day is like today, I will be rired when I get to the 1,500," O'Brico said Thursday after compiling 4,736 points in the opening five events, putting him 16 ahead of his pace of two years ago. "I'm not a distance run-

O'Brien's first-day total was the second-best legal score ever, behind the 4,738 he had at Knoxville. O'Brieo accumulated 4,747 points in the 1991 U.S. Championships in New York, but the mark was negated because there was no wind gange for the

With Eduard Hamalainen expectedly strong performances by his competition in of Belarus skipping the Goodwill Games to prepare for next month's European the high jump, pumped up O'Brien into a record effort. Championships at Helsinki, Finland, O'Brien bad no one

He cleared 2.20 metres, matching the American decathlon record set by Jack Hoyt at Santa Brabara, Calif., io 1991. That brought O'Brien from 145 points off world record pace to 21 back after four events. He then went ahead by winning the 400 metres in 47.73 seconds.

Prior to that, be had woo the 100 in 10.49, the loog jump at 7.81 metres (25-7, 1-2) and the shot put at 15.70 (51-6, 1-4).

Thursday's other track winners included 1991 world champion Michael Johnsoo in the 200 at 30.10, equalling the year's fastest time and a games' records; world record-holder Colin Jacksoo of Britain in the 110-metre hurdles at 13.29; world and competing against myself. I Olympic champion Heike Drechsler of Germany in the women's long jump at 7.12 metres (23-4, 1-2). C.J. Hunter in the men's shot put at 20.35 (66-9, 1-4), and 1993 world champion Maria Mutola of Mozambique in the women's 800 at 1:57.63, the

Lebanon's Homentmen wins Al Jazireh Women's Basketball Championship title

By Roufan Nahhas Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN - Homentmen of Lebanon Thursday won the Al Jazireh International Women's Basketball Championship after win-ning all its matches during

the week-long tournament. Al Jalaa' of Syria occupied the second place, followed in third place by Jordan's Al Jazireh.

In its last match played Thursday at Al Hussein Youth City's Sports Palace, Homentmen beat Kefalov-rysos of Cyrpus 64-27. Homentmen gussenteed token mentmen guaranteed tak-ing the title even before its last match since it has beaten the two other top contenders, Al Jalaa' and Al Jazireh. The Cypriot team ranked last among the five competing teams. The West Bank select team was fourth with one win over

the Cypriot team.

Also Thursday, Al

Jazireh lost to Al Jalaa'
51-46 in the tournament's last match held under the patronage of Her Majesty Queeo Noor. Youth Minister Fawaz Abul Ghanam deputised for Her Majesty at the match.

The match was decisive for both teams which were struggling to win the second place.

Al Jazireh started scoring but lost the lead fast for the Al Jalaa' which kept on

closing the defence area in front of Al Jazireh's Suhair Maqousi and Rania Da-

In spite of efforts by Al Jalaa' to stop the deter-mined Al Jazireh's attack, Maqousi tied the game 22-

Magousi, who was injured and sent out on a stretcher, was replaced by Rana Husseini wbo gave Al Jazireh the lead to end the first half 26-24.

Al Jalaa' came in a strong form in the second balf, putting pressure on Al Jazireh's defence to end the match with a 51-46 win and to reserve the second place behind Homeotmen. Emma Beglarian of Ho-

mentmen woo the MVP (most valuable player) title io the toornament and Jumana Salti won the best defensive player title. Carla Maghafar of Al Jalaa' woo the best offen-

sive player title and Luci Thaljiyeh for best attitude and finally the sports-manship title went to the Cypriot team.

Al Jazireh's coach Fadi Sabah said that this tournament, the first of its kind, will give our players the experience they need for future meetings with other teams

Al Jazirch's Husseini added that the team needs more exposure to gain ex-

Al Jazireh's Rana Hussemi (13) scores a two-pointer as three Al Jalaa players attempt to block her. Jumana Salti (10), who won the best defensive player title, looks on

Puerto Rico set for world championships after winning gold at Goodwill Games

U.S. Goodwill team to play Dream Team II

ST.PETERSBURG, Ruscia (AP) - The Puerto Recars cannot wait to get to Toronto for next month's Werld Basketball Champronships, confident after washing gold at the Good-

will Comes. The bronze-medal U.S. Goodwill team may not be quite as anxious to get to its next stop. The young college team plays Sunday in Taliland against the U.S. ational basketball team. Based on how the Amercans played in St. Petersourg, this one could be mes-

"We looked to the Amerlans as the favourite," said Raerto Rico coach Carlos liorales. "But they probsoly weren't as strong as they could have been. They're still a good team but didn't play up to what

Fuerto Rico established itself as a medal contender in Toronto.

"We think we can use this as a springboard for what lies ahead," Morales said. "We will have high thorale in the world championships."

Thursday's gold medal was the first medal of any kind in basketball for the Puerto Riccans, who will arrive in Canada with one of the tournament's most experienced teams, Puerto Rico was fourth in the 1964 Olympics and fourth again at the world championships in 1990.

Morales called Puerto Rico's 69-65 semifinal victory Wednesday over Russia "the greatest win in the history of Puerto Rico bas-

"The win tonight (Thursday) was one for history. We'll definitely be partying," he said of the 94-80 win over Italy. Jerome Mincy had 20 for Puerto Rico and Orlando Vega added

The goodwill team's appareot mismatch with the U.S. national hasketball team was not supposed to be. The game Sunday in Oakland was put together when it looked like the team would have the na-

tion's top collegiate players. It did not. Four of the 12 players picked dropped out, and many of this year's best

collegiate players turned professional rather than finish college and were not available.

That left the Americans with a good team, buth Puerto Rico with the gold medal, the Americans' bronze kept them from being the first U.S. team to fail to win a medal at a major tournament since the

Pan Am games in 1971.
The U.S. was battering the Russians and led 51.41 after Michael Finley slammed home a rebound with 14:45 to play. The slam also snapped a spring in the break-away basket, which it took technicians 40-minutes

The Russians stormed back, grabbing the lead at 60-59 on two free throws by Sergie Bazarevich with 6:17

to play.

Shawn Respert saved the Americans. He came off the beach with about seven minute left and hit all of his 11 points down the stretch. three on 3-pointers. Argentina defeated Brazil 63-53 in the fifth-place

game, and Croatia beat China 78-77 for seventh.

Broken rim causes delay

ST.PETERSBURG (AP) — Replacing a basketball rim in Russia is no easy task.

It took about a dozen men, two ladders and 40 minutes to

pulled down the rim while jamming in a rebound, snapping a coiled spriog. The broken spring flew from the rim like a bullet and it was fortunate that no one was hit.

A hack-op hasket was available, but what was not available was a ramp to roll it to the other.

cool off. "It belped the Russians

we were in control." Ravel-The United States held a 10-point edge when the rim came down with 14:45 to

Colak skips country before warrant

ANKARA, Turkey (AP) — Turkish soccer star Tanjo Colak flew to Macedonia less than 24 hours before an

NEWS IN BRIEF

arrest warrant was issued following his 22-month senteoce for car smuggling, it was reported Thursday. An appeals court July 21 upheld Colak's sentence, which included a 772 million liras fine (\$23,000), and the Turkish daily Hurriyet reported that an arrest warrant was issued

for Europe's leading scorer during the 1987-1988 season Thursday. Colak said he had left the country in order to represent Turkey one last time playing in a world all-stars game against Russia in St. Petersburg Aug. 7. "I'm not sure if I will return to Turkey," Colak wrote in a fax sent to the Turkish press, adding be was waiting to have his sentence lifted by president Suleyman Demirel. The sentence effectively ended Colak's soccer career because Turkish law forbids anyone convicted of certain crimes, including smuggling, from playing professionally again.

Shoe wars continue

ST.PETERSBURG, Russia (AP) - The shoe wars continue. Nike timed it right to open its first shop in St. rival Reebok is one of the major sponsors. Nike opened its shop Friday on Nevsky Prospect, the main street of the city and site of numerous commercial establishments.

With the latest opening, St. Petersburg residents have their choice of Nike, Reebok and Adidas shoes to choose from. A pair of good running shoes could cost them close to the equivalent of a month's salary for an average Russian: About \$100.

Games' flags disappear

ST.PETERSBURG (AP) — Thieves are pulling down Goodwill Games flags all over St. Petersburg. Police said more than half of the flags set up around the city have been stolen already, and the games are less than a week old. People are climbing roofs and flag poles to get at the flags.

Brazil's England day

LONDON (AFP) — World champions Brazil have agreed to take part in a six-nation foothall tournament in England next summer. Japan, among the favourites to host the 2002 World Cup, will also compete in the event, to be staged at Wembley and other venues involved in the 1996 European Championship finals. Glen Kirton, director of organisers Euro '96, said: 'Invitations have gone out to a number of countries. Brazil and Japan have accepted and it would also be attractive if we had another country from the British Isles and top oations from Europe and Africa." Around 100,000 tickets have already been sold for European finals

Cartwright for Kuwait

LONDON (AFP) - Former Arsenal coach John Cartwright, currently managing London neighbours Charlton Athletie's youth team, is to emhark on his third coaching spell with the Kuwait Sporting Club.

Klinsmann moves to Tottenham

LONDON (R) — German striker Juegen Klinsmann became Tottenbam's second glamoor capture of the week Friday, signing for the Londoo club for £2 million (\$3.04 millioo) from French side Moncaco.

Chairman Alan Sugar, hobdaying on his yacht off the south of France, completed top-secret negotia-Klinsmann was 30 during

the World Cup in the United States, where he suffered the disappointment of quarterfinal defeat by Bulgaria.

Bot he scored five goals in

the finals, catching the eye as he bad done four years earlier when be helped his country lift the World Cup in

His sigoiog represents another coup for Sugar and amnager Ossie Ardiles, who were later Friday unveiling (\$3.95 million) Romanian midfield recruit Ilie Dumit-

rescu at White Hart Lane. "Alan Sugar did the deal for Klinsmann in Monaco this morning," said club spokes-man Nick Hewer. "The fee was two million pounds and the player has signed a twoyear deal. Tottenham start the new 6374 ·

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seasoo minus six points, after being found guilty of making irregular payments to play-

They were also fined £1.5 million (\$2.28 million) and banned from this season's Foothall Association (F.A.)

Sugar said: 'Juergen is looking for a challenge and bas decided it is Tottenbam

which interests him most." part from also signing Dumitresen from Steaua Bocharest, Tottenham have been chasing similarly-priced Brazilian defeoder Marcio Santos, of Bordeaux, and compatriot Muller, of Sao

Martinez advances in Vermont

STRATTON MOUNTAIN, Vermont (R) — Conchita Martinez of Spain is far different than the player who won the \$400,000 Acura U.S. hardcourts title here last

"I'm much more confident oow," Martinez said Thursday, after cruising into the quarterfinals following a loog rain delay. Sbe crushed Karin

Kschweodt of Germany, 6-2, 6-0 in 53 minutes. Last year at the Paris Indoors, Martioez was pushed to three sets by Kschwendt before win-ning, 6-3 5-7 6-3. It was the only match com-

pleted as rain and fog played havoc with the programme.

GOREN BRIDGE WITH OMAR SHARIF & TANNAH HIRSCH 903 Tribune Makin Services, inc THE MAGIC FIT?

East-West vulnerable. West NORTH Q 9 7

XQ764 4A764 WEST EAST 4A104S 4K66 7J105 A7642 4A108 92 SOUTH SOUTH 4 Q 109

Q 10 9
The bidding:
West North East South
Pass Pass 1 ↑ Pass
2 ↑ Db1 Pass 2 ↑
Pass Pass Pass
Opening lead: Jack of ↑
Check any of Eddie Kantar's
books and you'll find he recommends a combined holding of at
least eight cards as the minimum for
a trump suit. So what was he doing

least eight cards as the minimum for a trump suit. So what was he doing et the recent Summer North American Championships in Washington. D.C., playing a hand with six-card trump suit split evenly between his hand and dummy?

North's initial pass is not to everyone's taste. Certainly, had the length been in the majors rather than the minors most players would have opened. Since North chose not to, a takeout double on the second

round was clearly the right action. Had South responded two no trump. North South would probe-bly have settled in a diamond partial, which would have been touch

and go.
Against two spades West led the jack of hearts. Despite the singleton in dummy, East would have done well to withhold the ace and allow declarer to win the trick. Not only did East rise with the ace, but the defender further abetted South's cause by shifting to a club, declarer's other winning.

cause by shifting to a club, declarer's queen winning.

The king and queen of hearts were cashed for two club discards from dummy and then the nine of hearts was played. West elected to ruff with the ten and dummy overruffed with the queen. The king of diamonds tost to the ace and West continued to give comfort to declar. continued to give comfort to declar er by cashing the ace of spades and cootinuing with a spade to East's

East reverted to clubs, the table's ace winning. Declarer came to hand with the jack of diamonds, drew hash missing Furning with the jack both missing trumps with the jack and dummy's diamonds took the rest of the tricks. Making three-odd.

Who needs trumps!

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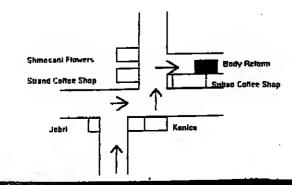
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fix a rim that snapped during the U.S.-Russia bronze medal game Thursday at the Goodwill Games. American Michael Finley

Asked by a Russian repor-

ter after the match what would have happened under the same circumstances in the United States, U.S. coach George Raveling said, "We would have rolled out one basket and rolled in

It's not that simple in Russia, as occasional slip-ups at the Goodwill Games have

from one side of the Lenin Sport and Concert Complex So both rims had to be screwed in and out of place, leaving both teams time to

more because they were losing and tired at the time and

play. With 6:17 left, the coldshooting Americans fell behind by a point but they rallied to win 80-71.

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ried to clubs, the tank Declarer came to hand ick of diamonds, drew grrumps with the hear is diamonds thou he icks. Making three-idd k trumps!

Agassi wins war against Wheaton at Toronto Open

TORONTO (R) — Andre Agassi, working to match his popularity with his ranking, moved into the quarterfinals of the \$1.72 millionCanadian Open tennis tournament with a tough 3-6 6-1 7-6 (9-7) victory over fellow-American David Wheaton Thursday.

In another third-round contest, 14th-seeded Malivai Washington upset thirdseeded Michael Chang 6-4 6-4. The 20th-ranked Agassi,

24, was ranked as high as third in the world back in 1988 and continued his top 1-prowess for five years. But injuries last year helped lower his ranking.

"I haven't felt this good about my game in a couple of yeras," Agassi said after the two-hour, 10 minute match. "I feel I'm moving well. It was very close but I felt great the way I played." The 68th-ranked Wheaton

inactive the first three months of the year with a hip injury, took the first set by breaking Agassi in the eighth At deuce, Agassi donble-

faulted and then Wheaton hit a winning forehand return to go ahead 5-3. Agassi was all over Wheaton in the second set,

taking a 5-0 lead hefore Wheaton held serve at love in the sixth game. The third set was all-out Agassi took a 4-2 lead but

Wheatoo raced back even eventually sending the match into a final set tiebreak. There were nine minibreaks in the 16 point tieb-

Agassi staved off two Wheaton match points on the 12th and 14th points before winning his one match point on the final point when Wheaton smacked a backhand half volley wide. "I fell I woo the match



Andre Agassi

even though I lost," Wheaton said of his high calibre per-formance. "Overall, I fell I did my best out there. The whole match I played very competitively and I'm very happy with that."

The sixth-ranked Chang was effectively challenged by the 35th-ranked Washington's stroog groundstrokes during the one hour, 39 minute match.

"I was able to beat him doing that he does best," said Washington, who trailed Chang 5-1 in career meetings going into Thursday's encounter. 'There were not many points won from the

net. I was happy I was able to play strong from the hase-

Washington broke Chang's serve in the opening game of the match and in the third game of the second set to secure his victory.

Chang was partienlarly weak on his second serve, winning only 48 per cent of the points on his second

Washington also scored 27 outright winners to Chang's 17 in the match. "I wasn't shie to force the

issue as much as I wanted to," Chang said. "I was a

Sydney picks Olympics supremo until Atlanta-

SYDNEY (AFP) — The take that as it comes." organising committee of Sydney's 2000 Olympics ended a string of setbacks for the difficult nine-month search SOCOG including the decifor an executive head Friday by appointing its own president Gary Pembertoo — at least until the Atlanta Olym-

Pemberton, who is also chairman of Qantas Airways and of Brambles Industries transport group, said here Friday his appointment as executive president would be reviewed in December 1996, which he described as "a sensible provision."

Australian Olympie officials have felt there might be a need to split the jnh in two, one job running to Atlanta and the other to take the games to the conclusion in 2000.

The conditions of Pemberall other directors of the Sydney organising committee for the Olympie Games (SOCOG) — allows the option to appoint people with

different skills for the last leg. But he was non-committal about whether he would like the job longer, saying: "We'll

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His appointment follows a sion of one candidate six weeks ago to pull out the day

before his appointment was to be announced. Pemberton said in June the salary had been a consideration in the candidate's decision and that more — possi-hle one million dollars would have been expected for the equivalent job in the

private sector. But he told a news conference Friday he was "comfort-able" with a salary of 350,000 Australian dollars (\$258,000) a year — \$50,000 less than what had been offered to the last candidate — and had personally thought \$400,000

was a bit much. "I had a hit of a sense that ton's appointment — and nf it should be a little below that and I was very comfortable with it (\$350,000)," said Pemberton, who is one of Sydney's better paid corpo-

rate leaders. He will retain his positions as Qantas chairman and chairman of Brambles Industries Ltd, but is stepping

down from other directorships with sugar group CSR Ltd. and the Commonwealth Bank of Australia.

Pemberton, who has been president of SOCOG since it was set up nine months ago, said he could foresee the need for much hard work and

attention to detail. He also described it as the most challenging job he had ever had, adding: "A lot of the issues are less tangible than the issues that a chief executive of a commercial

organisation faces."
"But 1 think at this stage some of the important issues are very much tactical and strategie and they involve a big incentive to get ourselves organised as quickly as possi-hle."

Hill and Berger issue warning to Schumacher

HOCKENHEIM. Germany (AFP) - Britain's Damon Hill shrugged off a hostile reception here Friday to eclipse Michael Schumacher by almost a second in nificial practice for Sunday's German Grand Prix.

Hill was whistled by thousands of spectators when he negotiated the Hockenheim circuit, recording lmin 44.026sec, the fastest lap of the day in his Williams-Renault.

"We shouldn't get carried away," he said. "Everybody goes a bit faster in Saturday's

Gerhard Berger nf Austria in a Ferrari clocked 1:44.616 for second place ahead of local hern Schumacher, the world champinnship leader who has appealed against a two-race ban for ignoring a

hlack flag at the recent Brit-ish Grand Prix won by Hill. He was third fastest in his Benetton-Ford in 1:44,875 with Jean Alesi of France, Berger's Ferrari teammate, fourth in 1:45.272.

The practices went pretty much as we expected," said Schumacher. "We didn't expect to be fastest, because the track here is made for speed and we are at a disadvantage because of that,"

Banned by the FIA, the spart's world governing body, Schumacher has launched an appeal so as not to disappoint Sunday's self-ont crowd of 150,000 here.

He is allowed to continue racing until the appeal is heard on Aug. 28. Should the ban upheld or

even increased, Hill, number two io the world championship, could dramatically whittle down Schumacher's

Schumacher, third in 1992 and second last year here, is pessimistic about his chances of beating Hill, almost a

Second faster in practice.
On Sunday the German
will also be under pressure
frond Berger and Alesi. Ferrari and Williams-Renault are using new engines which have proved more powerful. then the Ford io Scho-

macher's Benetion. Hockenheim, with its very long straight and few corners, favours brute engine power over flexibility, which Hill used this to advantage in practice.

But reliability remains the problem for the Ferraris. Berger's V12 engine broke down at nne stage and Alesi ran out of fuel.

The demanding circuit and the heat could give Schn-macher his best chance Sun-

day.
"Whatever happens I will be doing my best," said hte German. "I owe it to my supporters."

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McRae leads N. Zealand Rally after Sainz quits

ROTORUA, New Zealand (R) — British driver Colin McRae led the rally of New Zealand at the end of Friday's first day after world championship leader Carlos Sainz had to pull out.

McRae won the first stage and then, during the middle part of the day, made a charge over the wet, slippery gravel roads to finish the first leg 44 seconds ahead of world champion Juha Kankkunen of Finland.

Snharu driver McRae, whose only world championship victory was in this event last year, is under considerable pressure, having suffered setbacks this year including crashes and a dis-qualification from the Acro-

pursuers could gain from the event, the seventh round of 10 in the wnrld cham-

McRae said before the start he had resolved to be a hit more caotions this time and conceotrate on finishing. But, as one of his crew said: "Being careful for Colin

the road. is different from other peo-ple's ideas of careful." The pressure iocreased when Subarul team leader Sainz had to quit on stage five

with engine problems. "I need Colin to win for me," said Sainz. Victory for McRae would reduce the number of points the Spaniard's championship

Subaru suffered a further

setback in the following stage when New Zealander Possum Bourne, running fifth, spun and slid down a bank. The car was undamaged but the crew could not get it back on

Kankkunen, who survived s spin on stage seven which damaged his Toyota Celica slightly, was closely pursued through the day by his French teammate Didier Auriol and at the end of the day was just

seven seconds ahead of him. Fourth, nearly a minute behind Auriol, was Ford's substitute driver Ari Vatanen of Finland, driving the Escort Cosworth in the absence of the injured Francois De-

Vatanen also recovered

from a spin, but he and Ford colleague Miki Biasion of Italy felt their cars were slightly down on power running on different fuel from usual.

Oce second hebind Vatanen was German Armio Schwarz, showing that the Mitsubishi Lancer is now a contender for the top plac-

ings.
Schwarz' teammate, Swede Kenneth Eriksson, had been matching his times almost to the second but fell back to eighth equal with differential problems.

Sixth was Biasion and seventh young British champion Richard Burns in

another Subaru. The rally finishes in Auck-

Andretti says speed record in jeopardy

BROOKLYN, Mich. (AP) Mario Andretti says his all-time qualifying record of nearly 235 kph (377 mph) is in jeopardy as practice got under way Friday for Sun-day's Mariboro 500.

Andretti, who set an alltime auto racing qualifying record of 234.275 mph (376.946 kph) in winning the pole for last year's 500-mile (800-kilometre) race at Michigan International Speedway (MIS), said Thursday, "For sure, that record will be broken.

"In my mind, there is no question about it. Our cars are working well enough to go faster and, certainly, we are squeezing more power out of the engines.

"It's a matter of how much faster," added the 54-yearold Andretti, who is making his final swing around the Indy-car circuit as a driver. "That is where the factors of weather and track conditions will come into play.

"If we have a cool, cloudy

day for qualifying, then the jump could be several miles an hour. However, even if it's hot and sunny, last year's speed will be topped because our cars are working well enough to go faster and, certainly, we are squeezing more power out of the engines."

Andretti and Newman-Haas racing teammate Nigel Mansell, the defending race and series champion, are cofavourites to win the pole in nearly identical Ford Cosworth-powered Lolas.

Mansell, whose oval experience going into last year's race oo the 2-mile, (3.2kilometre) high-hanked Michigan track consisted of some practice and a crash at Phoenix, a victory in Milwankee and a third-place in the Indianapolis 500, was awed by the speeds at MIS. "The Michigan track is just swesome," Mansell said.

The speeds we are running here are incredible. Not only are we averaging over 230 mph (368 kph) per lap, we are doing 250 (400 kph) mph, 400 kph) on the straights. "I don't mind telling you I

find that amazing and in-credible. I certainly had not experienced anything like it Team Penske's trio of driv-

ing stars — Al Unser Jr., Emerson Fittipaldi and Paul Tray — have dominated the season, winning seven of nine races among them. But Unser's win at Indy, one of his series-leading five triumphs this year, came in a Penske car powered by a push-rod this year, came in a remise car powered by a push-rod type Mercedes-Benz engine.

That power plant, which reportedly produced up to 150 more horsepower than the conventional Indy V8s,

was used only at Indianapolis. which is sanctioned by the U.S. Auto Club. The rest of the series is run by Indycar and the Mercedes engine must conform to different rules that cut its power con-

siderably, Still, the Peoske cars,

which will be powered by convectional Ilmor V8s at Michigan, are expected to be competitive this weekend,

particularly in the race. "I think the Fords will out-qualify us," Unser said. limor has made tremendous gains, but the engine still doesn't quite equal the Ford Cosworth at the top end of the power hand. That's where the Fords are at their best. If the weather's at all in their favour, which means on the cool side, the top Fords will beat us to the pole.

"If it's a hot day, I believe we'll be able to compete with them. The same for race

Unser may not get his wish, and the speeds are likely to soar, with the national weather service forcecast calling for a relatively cool weekend, with highs around 26-28 degrees Celsius (high 70s to low 80s Fahrenheit) on Saturday and 29 Celsius (85 Fahrenheit) on race day.

Bekanntmachung ... für Deutsche zur Wahl zum Deutschen Bundestag

Am 16. Oktober 1994 findet die Wahl zum Deutschen Bundestag statt.

Deutsche, die außerhalb der Bundesrepublik Deutschland leben und hier keine Wohnung mehr Innehaben, können bei Vorliegen der sonstigen wahlrechtlichen Voraussetzungen an der Wahl teilnehmen.

Für die Wahlteilnahme ist u.a. Voraussetzung, daß sie

1. nach dem 23. Mai 1949 und vor Ihrem Fortzug aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*) mIndestens drei Monate ununterbrochen in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*) gewohnt oder sich dort sonst gewöhnlich aufgehalten haben;

2. a) in Gebieten der übrigen Mitgliedstaaten des Europarates leben oder b) in anderen Gebieten leben und am Wahltage seit ihrem Fortzug aus der Bundesrepublik Deutschland*) nicht mehr als zehn Jahre verstrichen sind;

3. in ein Wählerverzeichnis in der Bundesrepublik Deutschland eingetragen sind. Diese Eintragung erfolgt nur auf Antrag. Der Antrag ist auf einem Formblatt zu stellen; er soll bald nach dieser Bekanntmachung abgesandt werden. Einem Antrag, der erst am 26.09.1994 oder später bel der zuständigen Gemeindebehörde eingeht, kann nicht mehr entsprochen werden (§ 18 Abs. 1 der Bundeswahlordnung).

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Amman Im Juli 1994

Botschaft der Bundesrepublik Deutschland P.O. Box 183, 11118 Amman sonntags bis donnarstags von 8.00 - 12.00 Uhr

*) Zu berücksichtigen ist auch eine frühere Wohnung oder ein früherer Aufersthalt in dem in Artikel 3 des Einigungsvorlinges genannten Gebiet (Brandenburg, Meckenburg-Vorpornmern, Sachsen, Sachsen-Anhalt und Thüringen zuzüglich des Gebiete des früheren Berlin

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Peres scales down Golan stand, restates tough line

Erem Michael Jansen in Nicosia

IN A CLIMB-down from an announcement be made on July 13 that "Israel has always considered the Golan Heights as Syrian territory," Israeli Foreign Minister Shimon Peres; in private conversation with this corresponeent during a three-day visit to Cyprus, admitted, "I was speaking of past-Israeli government policy but not of present policy...

He explained that in the wake of the 1967 war, Israel has made it clear that it was "prepared to return to the borders" once its demands for water rights and security were met.

Mr. Peres' July 13th proclamation, made on the eve of a visit to the region by U.S. Secretary of State Warren Christopher, was described by the U.S. as "far-reaching" and seen as an attempt to encourage Damascus to make the sort of concessions needed to revitalise the peace process on the Syrian and Lebanese tracks, stalled since the February 25 massacre of viuslim worshippers at Al Ibrahimi Mosque in Hebron.

But Mr. Peres' words did not achieve the hoped for breakthrough in the talks with Syria and caused a storm of protest among supporters of Golan settlers in Israel prompting Prime Minister, Yitzhak Rabin to State: "Israel does not recognise Syrian sovereignty over the

Sources close to Mr. Peres reported that he bad obtained Mr. Rabin's "full support" prior to the declaration. Mr. Rabin's desertion of his foreign minister under fire has hardly surprising as the two men have long been political rivals.

Israel Radio reported on Thursday that this rivalry flered into antagonism during ton on the signing of the document ending the state of war between Israel and Jordan because Mr. Peres, considered "the architect of the peace process." was sidelined by Mr. Rabin and the Clinton administration.

In spite of such reversals. both political and personal, Peres stated that there was reason for optimism with regard to the resumption of Syrian-Israeli talks. First, he said, Syria had been "restrained in its reaction" to the signing of the Jordan-Israel document. This contrasted sharply with its outright condemnation of the Oslo accord with the Palestine Liberation Organisation (PLO)

Second, the Syrians reaf-firmed their sincere intention to make peace during recent meetings with Mr. Christ-opber and, third, Mr. Peres stated that he was "encouraged by the condemnation of the London bombings by Syrian Foreign Minister. Farouk Al Sharaa.

Mr. Peres said, however, that the two sides had not yet been able to agree on the "means" to resume bilateral meetings or the "subjects" of discussion. On means he said that on all three tracks - the Syrian, PLO and Jordanian - there had been both public and private meetings before progress was achieved but Syria had not agreed to follow this procedure. On substance he asserted that there were three issues to discuss: The nature of peace, which the Syrians insist, was settled when President Hafez Al Assad described what they meant by peace to U.S. President Bill Clinton in January; security arrangements which bave reportedly been agreed; and Israeli withdrawal, which Israel argues must be partial, 'on" the Golan while Damascus demands must be "from" the entirety of the

Thursday, Mr. Peres stated that Israel did not seek any delay or postponement of discussions with Syria because Israel "wants a comprehensive peace that will comprise all the parties" to the conflict. However, the "good cop-bad cop" approach to peacemaking is practised by Mr. Peres, offers concessions and Mr. Rabin who takes them away only increases Syrian suspicions of their inten-

Israel radio has reported that Syria and Lebanon were prepared to resume talks with Israel in a joint delegation while authoritative Israeli and Palestinian sources in Jerusalem have said that Israel is preparing its public opinion for "complete" withdral from the Golan, though timing of such a commitment was not yet certain. Reacting to the bombings

of Israeli and Jewish premise

in Britain and Argentina, Mr. Peres said his country would take both "punitive" and "preventive" action. He stated that Tehran is both "financing and supporting" the Lebanese Shiite Hizbollah movement, widely be-lieved to be behind the bombing campaign. Israel did not yet "have any detailed information" about Iranian complicity "but we will get it. Iran's denials" of responsibility, be stated, "are not worth a penny." The Lebanese army bas mobilised in the south to repel any Israeli military attack on Lebanese targets while the Israeli press has reported, since early this year, that Israel was preparing to take direct action against Tehran for its sponsorship of "fundamentalist terrorism." The latest bombings could be the pretext for

In all his public statements

(Continued from page 7)



BLAST IN MADRID: Spanish plainclothes policemen investigate the remains of the car used by Spanish General Francisco Veguillas Elices after, powerful bomb killed him, his driver and a bodyguard early Friday. The bomb,

planted by Basque separatist group ETA exploded in central Madrid killing three and injuring 10 (see inside) (AFP

BEIRUT (Agencies) - Private radio and television stations resumed newscasts Friday under a new law abo-lishing state restrictions that had muzzled nongovernment broadcasters for the last four months.

"Hello again and our apology for the news interruption forced on us," said George Yazbek, chief radio announcer at Voice of Lebanon, the country's oldest privately owned stations.

The ban was imposed by Prime Minister Rafik Al Hariri's cabinet on March 23, ostensibly to safeguard national security during a grovernment crackdown on right-wing Christians. The ban threw the government into confrontation with parliament, whose major blocs opposed the ban.

We missed you and yon missed us because of a decision that was out of our control." Mr. Yazbek said in Arabic on Voice of Lebanon at 11 a.m. (0800 GMT) on the first news flash that ushered in the resumption of regular newscasts.

The station, one of the most widely listened to in Lebanon, was founded by Christians sbortly after civil war broke out in 1975. Other stations joined the rush back to the airwayes.

The voice has returned to the whole nation," the Sunni Muslim station Voice of the Nation said. "Freedom is safe," said Elie Saliba, head of news

operations at Lebanese Broadcasting Corporation International, one of Lebanon's biggest private TV stations. The unprecedented ban on the more than 150 radio and television stations sparked

harsh criticism of Mr. Hariri's government. Lebanon bad had the freest media in the Middle East, even during the darkest days of the 1975-90 civil war. The ban gave the govern-ment's radio and television

staions a monopoly on locally prepared new casts. But Lebanese could continue to tune into international radio stations and pick up foreign telecasts. Parliament Speaker Nabih

Berri led the move to restore locally prepared newscasts and pushed a bill through parliament to rescind the cabinet's decision.

Mr. Hariri, faced with mounting accusations that he was trying to suppress free-

dom, bad to comply with parliament's decision. President Elias Hrawi signed the bill into law and it took effect Friday after appearing in the official gazette.

Executives of the privately owned stations have endorsed guidelines forbidding reports bable to endanger national security or provoke sectarian dissent that could rekindle the civil war between Christians and Mus-

Privately owned stations reflecting Lebanon's broad spectrum of religious and pobtical groups, sprang np without licences during the 15-year civil war.

The ban had threatened hundreds of layoffs in a country still recuperating from the devastation of the civil war, Beirut's 11 daily newspapers were exempt from the restrictions.

Only minntes after staterun Lebanon Radio announced that President Hrawi had signed the new bill, most of the country's 50 private television and 100 radio stations aired newscasts.

A committee grouping private media organisations

This is in line with a U.S.

Central Intelligence Agency

(CIA) estimate that Pyon-

hailed the lifting of the ban and said in a statement: "Today is a day for freedom and

The bill calls for temporary lifting of the ban until a law organising the media is pas-

The broadcasters pledged to abide by articles stipulating they should make a clear commitment to the pact of national reconciliation and respect freedom of the press and democracy.

The organisations said they bad formed a committee of 'Self-censorship" that would ensure all private outlets abided by the commitment.

The bill bans broadcasting of items that provoke sectarian rifts or threaten national peace. Violators will be punished in line with the press law. The government came up

with a draft bill last month that for the first time would regulate the private broadcasters, which sprang up during the civil war. The draft needs parlia-

ment's approval and is expected to provoke debate that could go on for months. Parliament is expected to start debating the measure in September. Seoul rejects defector's nuclear claim

lawmakers attacked the

National Security Planning

Agency (NSPA) for mishand

return to Poland WARSAW, Poland (AP) -

paintings.

2 Turners among

3 pictures stolen

FRANKFURT (AFP) -

Two paintings by the English

master William Turner and a

third by German artist Cas-par David Friedrich were

stolen from an art gallery

here in an overnight raid,

police said Friday. Two

thieves broke into the gallery

shortly after it closed at 10:00 p.m. (2000 GMT) and hid

themselves before over-

powering the night watch-

man, a police spokesman said. The pair handcuffed the

watchman and covered his

bead with a hood before lock-

ing him in an adjoining room

and making off with the

in Frankfurt

The ashes of Gen. Tadeusz Bor-Komorowski, the commander of the heroic 1944 Warsaw uprising against the Nazis, were returned to his bomeland to be buried among his fallen soldiers. Gen. Bor-Komorowski, who headed the underground bome army resistance movement 50 years ago, lived in exile until 1966, when he died in London and was buried in Gunnersbury Cemetery. On Saturday, his ashes will be put to final rest with state honours at Warsaw's Powazki Cemetery. The ceremony is a part of commemorations of the dramatic insurgency that cost more than 200,000 Polisb lives and was ruthlesly crushed by German troops. The commander's call to arms on Aug. 1, 1944 was an effort to liberate Warsaw following five years of German occupation at a moment when Soviet troops were nearing the capital. However, the revolt was doomed to fail. Soviet leader Joseph Stalin, ordered his troops to stop let the insurgents to Poland's London-based government-in-exile, bleed ont. After signing the insurgency capitulation, Gen. Bor-Komorowski was taken prisoner of war by the Germans and after World War II settled in London, where he was active among Polish emigre cricles. He never returned to his homeland. During Poland's 44 years as part of the Soviet Bloc, some Moscow-backed Polisb politicians considered Gen. Bor-Komorowski a "war criminal" who sent thousands to their death in what they considered a political game. Efforts to bring the commander's ashes to Poland were begun after the fall of communism in 1989.

indian social groups welcome sex test ban

NEW DELHI (R) - Indian

social activists rejoiced after

parliament's lower house passed a law to ban misuse of medical tests which have led to thousands of abortions of female foetuses. "I think it is an important step which will be a tonl in the hands of social action groups," said Mira Shiva of the Voluntary Health Association of India. We have been campagining against this since 1982." The Lok Sabba, or lower bouse, voted unanimously to regulate amniocentesis, a fluid test, and ultrasound tests. Deputies said they expect the upper house to clear the law without a hitch. The tests, which are meant to track pregnancy disorders, bave been used to detect and abort girl children, widely considered to be a social liability in India where parents must spend huge sums in downes to get their daughters married. Ultrasound tests are also widely used in China for the same purpose. "Dowry is to a large extent the problem in what someone called demographic fundamentalism," Mr. Shiva said. "Sex tests are a part of our social fabric of prejudice," said Communist deputy Malini Bhattacharya. The bill orders compulsory registering of genetic counselling centres, which will face closure if there are complaints of abuse. It stops doctors from disclosing the sex of unborn children and advertising sex tests.

Yemen cabinet expected in early August — report

Yemeni cabinet will be formed shortly and its southorn members will all be firures who openly opposed the south's civil war bid for secession, a Sanaa newspaper reported on Friday.

The paper, May 22, quoted political sources as saving a government to replace the present caretaker cabinet and oversee post-war reconstruction was expected in early August.

The newspaper, which is identified with President Ali Abdullah Saleh's General People's Congress (GPC) party, said the ministers would be mostly technocrats and 75 per cent of them would be newcomers.

It gave no hint who would head the country's third govenument since the 1990 union between North and South

The cahinet has been beaded by Acting Prime Minister Mohammad Said Al After of the GPC since the

sacking of Haidar Abu Bakr and sonthern Yemeni leaders Al Attas, who supported the separatist southern cause in the two-month civil war that ended on July 7.

The newspaper said the government would be formed along existing party lines but would exclude any member of the southern Yemen Socialist Party (YSP) "who did not declare clear and unambiguous opposition to

Ali Salem Al Beidh, who headed the YSP and served as Mr. Saleh's vice-president during the four-year union, fled abroad when the north won the war.

But with 56 seats in the 301-member parliament, the YSP remains officially the third pillar of the coalition government with the GPC. the dominant parliamentary bloc, and Islah, an umbrella group of Islamists.

U.N. special envoy Lakhdar Ibrahimi said northern agreed on the need to continne reconciliation talks after a three-bour meeting in Geneva Thursday.

Mr. Ibrahimi said no date had been fixed for further talks and recognised that the two sides were still divided over the organisation of dialogue in the wake of their two-month civil war.

The two sides also agreed during face-to-face talks to keep in touch with Mr. Ibrahimi, who tried to broker a dialogue during the war.

Sanaa was represented by Planning Minister Abdul Karim Al Iryani, while the southern side was represented by Mr. Attas.

Yemeni diplomats had said earlier that northern authorities would refuse to hold talks with representatives of the former breakaway south, insisting that discussions should be held in Yemen. But Mr. Ibrahimi dismissed this as "speculation."

SEOUL (Agencies) — South Korea formally dismissed on Friday claims by a North Korean defector it put on show that Pyongyang had de-veloped five nuclear war-

Led by Deputy Prime Minister Lee Hong-Koo, top policymakers meeting in Seoul agreed the defector's remarks lacked credibility, a government spokesman told reporters.

Deputy Prime Minister Lee explained that (the Seoul government) has held thorough consultations with the United States on this matter," he said. "He reaffirmed a position that Kang Myong-Do's statement lacks specific

Mr. Kang, who said he was the only son-in-law of North Korean Prime Minister Kang Song-San, told an officially organised news conference in Seoul on Wednesday that Pyongyang was trying to build missiles to carry five nuclear warheads it bad already developed.

North Korea has denied Mr. Kang is related to its premier but Seoul's intelligence service, which organised the news conference, said it had confirmed the relationship.

Seoul officials said they had no evidence North Korea had developed any nuclear bombs, although they believed it possessed 10 to 15 kilogrammes of plutonium.

gyang might have one or two atomic bombs, based on its assessment made public earlier this year of bow much plutonium the North could bave extracted from its fivemegawatt reactor during a shutdown in 1989 ClA Director James Woolsey said last month

Pyongyang could bave enough pintonium for five more bombs by later this year unless its nuclear programme were halted. South Korea's intelligence

agency came under fire on Friday for producing the defector. Both ruling and opposition

ling Mr. Kang after his statement — and the timing of the announcement of bis defection — caused ripples here and abroad. "It is shameful to see that the government scrambled to

put out the flames caused by Mr. Kang's press conference. which should have been finetuned by the NSPA," said Park Jung-Soo of the ruling Liberal Democratic Party. "It is a legacy from the past

military regime to make pub-lic anything that is presumed bad for the North," said Shin Ki-Ha of the opposition Democratic Party.

Jordan does not face serious hurdles to enter expert By P.V. Vivekanand statement is an essential subable both the public and primost cases Jordanian customs

Jordan Times Staff Reporter

AMMAN -- Jordan should not have serious problems in gaining entry to the General Agreement on Trade and Tariffs (GATT), given that the Kingdom's foreign trade policies largely fall in line with the GATT system, according to a Swedish ex-

.Aken Linden, special advisor to the director-general of GATT, also said that accession to GATT, which calls for barrier-free imports, would not lead to any major changes in the customs tariff structure of Jordan and any undermining of local indus-

Mr. Linden spent last week here meeting officials and businessmen for a review of the formalities related to Jordan's application to join GATT and the pros and cons of the Kingdom being a member of the international sys-

One of the key tasks that the Swedish expert undertook while in Jordan was a review of a draft statement on Jordan's economic and Toreign trade policies.

Jordan applied to join GATT in January this year. In March, GATT set up a "working party" beaded by Singapore to negotiate Jordan's entry, and the draft

stantiatory presentation that would be studied by the GATT general council. Mr. Linden noted that Jor-

dan's exports, which account for around 20 per cent of the Kingdom's gross national product, or its local industry did not stand to suffer as a result of entering GATT. "You have a high potential for gain while you stand to lose nothing," Mr. Linden

told a gathering of Jordanian businessmen at the Chamber of Industry Wednesday even-The expert said he could not pinpoint in quantitative terms Jordan's gains, but that

there were provisions in the GATT system to protect the Kingdom's economy against the potential flow of imports on a free-market economy approach.

Mr. Linden, who was hosted by the Chamber of Industry and held a round of talks with Finance Minister Sami Gammoh on Thursday, described his discourses here as aimed at "calming the fears" of Jordanian businessmen as to what GATT held in

store for them. GATT was established in 1947 with a view of facilitating free international trade

by directly addressing cus-

toms tariffs. Since then, it

had to take into considera-

tion other barriers such as

quotas, subsidies and intellectual property rights. After negotiations stretch-

ing almost a decade after being launched in Uruguay, GATT members endorsed expanding the scope of their agreement to include services and intellectual property rights last year. They signed the agreement in Marrakesb. Morocco, in April and paved the way for the World Trade Organisation (WTO) which would eventually replace

Both GATT and WTO involve a buge maze of provisions and counterprovisions that call for barrier-free trade and services. According to Mr. Linden and other experts familiar with the complex arrangement, the key to gain the best individual benefit for a country is a very clear understanding of the docu-

GATT now includes 123 countries, and the GATT council is involved in negotiations with 20 other countries on their applications to join the system. Some countries have taken as much as eight years of negotiations to enter

GATT. One of the main problems in Jordan is a fear based on the complexity of GATT that the international agreement could not mean any benefit to a small country like the King-dom and, if anything, its local

industry could end up on the losing end of the bargain by entering the system. By and large, the belief among officials and business-

men appears to be that GATT membership is of possible benefit to Jordan's exports, but the Kingdom's local industry could suffer as a result of a free flow of foreign products. Furthermore, they also feel that Jordan stands to lose a

lot by opening up the services sector and the flow of intellectual property rights in to barrier-free exchanges but under clear international obligations. They prefer to bmit Jordan's involvement at this point in time to trade in goods.

Khaldoun Abu Hassan. bead of the Chamber of Industry, said Thursday many of the doubts of businessmen were cleared by their discussions with Mr. Linden. However, be said, the Chamber of Industry kept the option open to invite international private sector experts to advise Jordan on how to go about getting the best advantage from GATT.
"We are not opposed to

our government's decision to

join GATT as a full mem-

ber," Mr. Abu Hassan told

the gathering at the Chamber

of Industry. "But we are con-

cerned that we cooperate

with the government to en-

vate sectors to arrive at a joint denominator to adapt and react to requirements of the agreement in complete unison and understanding for the good of our country. "We want to see that any transition from any stage to

another shall be smooth in implementation, diligent in timing, positive in direction and productive in effect." Individual countries with peculiar economic features are entitled to secure provisions in their agreements with GATT, which allow for protective measures for such countries under specific conditions and undertakings.

In the case of Jordan, which is implementing an economic restructuring programme prescribed by the International Monetary Fund (IMF), the Kingdom could seek quota provisions for imports to ensure a stable balance of payments situation, Mr. Linden said.

Similarly, the Kingdom, like other GATT members, could also introduce extra duties to prevent "dumping" - the flow of foreign products into Jordan at a price cheaper than the local market price of their domestic equivalents.

According to Mr. Linden, the accepted level of customs tariffs by GATT is 40 per cent to 50 per cent and in

duties fall in this range. As such, "I don't anticipate any major changes to Jordan's customs tariff structure of a level that would undermine the local industry," he said. GATT has no say in inter-

nal taxation, be said in response to a question how he viewed the possibility that the government might make up for the possible loss in customs revenues by increasing local taxes. Customs duties account for around 20 per cent of the local revenues in the budget,

the slightest decline in customs income to the treasury would be made up through additional taxes. Jordan could also adopt protective measures with GATT approval to protect its agricultural sector, which is given a special status in the international agreement, be

and businessmen believe that

pointed out. Mr. Linden expected that, at the present pace of negotiations and given the minimum time for internal GATT deliberations and an obligatory two-thirds vote of approval, Jordan's accession to GATT could be completed in about one year to 18 months time.

Covered in the process would be questions raised by GATT members and answers provided by Jordan and spe-

cific conditions attachments to the Kingdom's entry. These could be a general arrangement with all GATT members and on a bilateral basis blessed by the Geneva-

needed.

based body whenever

Although expected to be replaced by WTO when it comes into being next year, GATT will remain in existence for some years for countries which might want to limit their involvement in international agreements to trade in goods and to allow for ongoing negotiations on GATT entries with some countries to be completed. Mr. Linden said Thursday

after his meeting with the finance minister that he 'got the impression" that Jordan might want to apply for direct WTO membership rather than going through the two steps; entry to GATT and then into WTO at a later

But Mr. Gammoh told the Jordan Times on Friday that he was only trying to "figure out the best and most advantageous way" for Jordan to enter the realm of international trade agreements, and whether it is better to go direct to WTO or through GATT."

"No definite ideas have been formulated, and the whole issue is under study,' the minister said.

paintings, worth millions of dollars. The watchman managed to raise the alarm around 10:30 p.m. Police said Friday they had no leads on the whereabouts of the stolen unan nomini Ashes of Warsaw Oman's Coul uprising leader والمراد المنطق Carlo Carlo Salas at 11. the Mariana i Salah ett. 33. W. C. Selections

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